

# THE ATHENÆUM

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## LITERATURE

*China and the Present Crisis, with Notes on a Visit to Japan and Korea.* By Joseph Walton, M.P. (Sampson Low & Co.)

A NOVEL feature in Parliamentary life is the practice which has grown up of members going abroad to study on the spot the details of foreign politics in which they are interested. Lord Curzon was a notable instance of this new habit, and Mr. Walton is the latest example. The practice has its advantages, but unquestionably gives rise to rash assertions and hasty generalizations. Mr. Walton spent four months in China, and the present book is the result of this brief visit. He takes as his text the decline of British influence in China and the increasing preponderance of the power of Russia; and in this he follows in the wake of Mr. Colquhoun, whose recent work on the subject was lately reviewed in these pages. For this view there is much to be said, and in Manchuria it finds its fullest development. Throughout this province, which covers an area of 390,000 square miles, and which has an excellent climate, fertile soil, great forests, and mineral wealth, Russia is rapidly placing herself in military occupation:—

"She has seized Port Arthur and Talien Wan, and is making the former impregnable. She has now about 40,000 soldiers in these places, the laying down of a system of railways throughout the country is rapidly proceeding, and at every railway station Russian soldiers are to be found."

And again:—

"The conviction forced on me by what I saw at Port Arthur and Newchwang is that Russia has a settled determination not only to remain at Port Arthur, but ultimately to annex at least the north of China. On the other hand, the impression created on my mind at Weihaiwei was that our occupation could hardly be regarded as serious, and might be ended any day."

But though the influence of Russia is doubtless exceedingly great, she has not a few difficulties of her own creation to contend with. Her treatment of the natives is harsh and inconsiderate, and this conduct has had

much to do with the fierceness of the recent outbreak of hostilities in the province. The Russians are, according to Mr. Walton, shifty in their agreements with their work-people, and

"are causing considerable difficulty by sending men down to try and tempt away foremen and skilled workmen both from Shanghai workshops and dockyards, and from the construction works of the Newchwang Extension Line. They promise an enormous increase in wage, which they pay for a few weeks and then discontinue, with the result that the men are very discontented and are coming back to English employment."

This is an evil which will cure itself, but the presence of considerable Russian garrisons in all the large cities of Manchuria is a more serious menace to the freedom of the province. All recent travellers agree that Cossacks are to be found everywhere, and that at Newchwang, the only treaty port in the country, they are conspicuously in evidence, whereas our interests are left unprotected by a force of any kind. To such an extent is this the case that on a recent occasion when a disturbance broke out in the British settlement the consul was obliged to ask for a guard of Cossacks to settle the dispute.

At Newchwang Mr. Walton met a native merchant named Chen, who gave him a highly intelligent view of the then political position in China. "He considers," writes Mr. Walton,

"that China may be at any moment on the eve of a great crisis. He described the present Empress Dowager as having 'tucked the young Emperor under her arm and won't allow him to move.' She is now sixty-five years of age and broken in health through being worried with the cares and intrigues necessary to maintain her position. He would not be surprised to hear of her death at any time. When this takes place there will probably be three factions striving for mastery in China. One will be under Yung-lu, the generalissimo of all the forces in North China and nephew of the Dowager Empress, who is against reform and is anti-foreign. Another faction might be headed by Kangyi, a member of the Grand Council..... The third faction would probably be under the leadership of Prince Ching, now [no longer] President of the Tsungli Yamén: he is a collateral relation of the present Emperor, and is to a certain extent patriotic and in favour of reform."

This is a just appreciation of the political outlook so far as it goes, but one at least of these leaders has, if rumour is to be accepted, already passed to that bourne to which so many Chinamen have of late been hurried. Chen's information with regard to the Reform Party in China is equally to the point, and he "considers that the only hope for China is to have its army reorganized under British officers." Mr. Walton had interviews at Peking with Prince Ching and Li-Hungchang, the first of whom agreed with him in considering that the only hope of averting the partition of China lay in (1) the prompt settlement of all outstanding differences with England and the other powers; (2) a resolute refusal of concessions violating the treaty rights of other nations; and (3) the seeking of the assistance of English, Japanese, and American officers in the immediate reorganization of her military and naval forces. Although his Highness expressed his hearty approval of this line of policy, too much value must not be attached to his

ready acquiescence in it. A Chinese official is extremely apt to say what he thinks will please his visitor, and although Prince Ching is more enlightened than most of his compeers it would be going too far to expect much from this expression of opinion.

Li-Hungchang, on whom Mr. Walton also called, held out the same flattering prospects, and let Mr. Walton depart in the full belief that he was a friend of reform, stating also that if his visitor's proposals were carried out, "he was prepared to devote the remainder of his life to the service of his country. Failing this, he considered the situation hopeless, and would remain in retirement." With another visitor holding opposite views Li would doubtless have equally agreed. Little reliance is to be placed on his professions, and still less on his word. But Mr. Walton was on surer ground when he subsequently interviewed the two great viceroys on the Yangtze. Liu Kunyi spoke openly and frankly on the situation, and the attitude which he assumed during the recent crisis entitles his opinions to respect:—

"He thinks any reform movement to be effectual must begin at Peking. A strong, able, and enlightened ruler could alone lay the foundation of the regeneration of China. He considers the corrupt officialdom ought to be dealt with, but he fears it is almost an impossible task. He is very friendly to England, but cannot understand why the British Government should have allowed Russia to ride roughshod over China, and deeply regrets that our influence and prestige have been destroyed. He would welcome concerted assistance from those nations who do not desire the partition of China in the reorganization of her military forces."

These are not mere empty words, but express the firm convictions of a man who has done more than any one else, except perhaps his brother viceroy, Chang Chih-tung, to check the spread of the rebellion in the central and southern provinces of the empire. But his words convey a direct condemnation of the policy which we pursued at the time of the *coup d'état*. Before that crisis the reform movement had the support of the Emperor and of his more enlightened councillors, and it was plainly our interest, and it should have been our policy, to give every support to the well-meant efforts of the Emperor. Instead of doing this, however, we tamely acquiesced in the practical deposition of the Emperor, and without any hesitation recognized the usurping Dowager Empress as the *de jure* ruler of the empire. This was a fatal mistake, as events proved. It was well known that the deposition of the Emperor meant the suppression of all prospect of reform and the total ruin of all progressive schemes. With a full knowledge of this we sowed the wind by accepting the revolution, and are now reaping the whirlwind. But as if to emphasize our approval of the *coup d'état* the ladies of the foreign Legations requested to be received in audience by the usurper, accepted her hospitality, and exchanged impassioned compliments. In this and in many other ways our policy in China has been curiously misguided. Mr. Walton hints that the mismanagement of the British affairs is due not to the officials on the spot, but to in-

structions from Downing Street. If this be so a double responsibility rests on the Foreign Office officials. It is impossible to suppose that Sir Claude MacDonald did not foresee the effects which would inevitably result from the *coup d'état*, and if in spite of his warnings the Foreign Office insisted on his supporting the reactionary party in the state, it has much to answer for. It would be difficult to accept this explanation if it were not that we have lately seen two open and palpable instances of Foreign Office folly with regard to China. It is impossible to understand the motive which induced Mr. Balfour to give to the German Government his gratuitous assurance that we would not construct any railways to connect Weihaiwei with the interior of the province, or the policy which impelled Lord Salisbury to order, at the beek of Russia, the British fleet to leave Port Arthur while yet it was Chinese territory.

Mr. Walton's book consists of a series of notes descriptive of his experiences, and as such it is in vain to look for any perfection of literary style, to which, however, he makes no profession; but though such is the case the book will be found useful to all those who desire to study the commercial and political position of the Chinese empire at the present time.

*Rupert, Prince Palatine.* By Eva Scott. (Constable & Co.)

THERE are many lives of Cromwell, but of the other heroes, victims, or ruffians which the great Civil War produced the public knows strangely little. In this matter we are in unfavourable contrast with our neighbours; the life-histories of those who had even a minor part in the French Revolution have been carefully studied and commented on in countless volumes of every degree of excellence and imbecility.

As to Prince Rupert it has been otherwise: some justice has been done him by historians old and new, yet to them he was nothing more than one actor in a complex drama. By biographers he has been sadly neglected, for, whatever may be thought of him, either as a man or a commander, his career was of much political significance as well as being highly picturesque. Warburton's volumes, published some half a century ago, were for their time fairly accurate, though distorted by a certain amount of prejudice; they, however, contained a mass of correspondence which then saw the light for the first time. Record collections, whether public or private, were in those days in but a small measure accessible. The public ought therefore to be most grateful to Miss Scott for giving it a new study of the prince's career founded on modern research. Her work cannot be accepted as final, either as a character estimate or a chronicle, but no one who wishes to study either the man or his time can afford to disregard it. Of the man himself we have a vivid sketch, and not too flattering, the outlines of which will dwell in the memory, and it has the merit of being almost entirely free from party feeling. In fact, we think that in one respect the lady's desire to be fair all round has led her to abstain from painting some of

the prince's contemporaries—the worthless Goring, for example—in as dark colours as they merit.

Rupert was hardly a great soldier in the strict sense of the term. At no period of his life probably was he fitted for chief command, yet he may be said never to have had a fair chance except when he was acting on the sea in a condition which looks very much like that of a pirate. He began his fighting career far too early. He was but thirteen when he made his first campaign, and had passed two years as a prisoner of war before the appeal to arms which was to make him famous took place in this country. His conduct when in captivity made his name popular not only in England, but throughout the Protestant world, for every endeavour which political and religious zeal could suggest was made to persuade the young man to renounce the tenets of his parents. Bribes and blandishments were alike unsuccessful. His mother had a little before feared that when in England the queen would induce him to embrace her form of faith, and this seemed at one time highly probable; his brother, the young Elector wrote, was "always with the queen, her ladies and her Papists," and his mother was by no means favourable to his friendship for Endymion Porter, who, though himself a Protestant, had a Roman Catholic wife most zealous in making converts. In after days Rupert appears to have said that had he stayed a fortnight longer in this country he should have changed his religion. In no case would he have acted in what he regarded as a dishonourable manner, but his was not a mystic nor a devout temper. We do not believe that at any period of his career he felt much interest in those questions which severed the Churches.

When revolution was in the air Rupert came back to England. He had been a sufferer for Protestantism, and was regarded by the greater part of the Royalists as a confessor for the faith, but the men on the other side had not forgotten his friendship for the queen, and in their pamphlets and newsletters groundless assertions were made as to his leanings towards the unpopular creed. These accusations, however, soon gave place to attacks on his character as a soldier. He had unquestionably accepted the continental theories regarding warfare, and was from time to time guilty of, or at least permitted, acts which to quiet, peaceful Englishmen, unaccustomed to the licence of camps, were revolting in a high degree. Indeed there cannot be a doubt that many atrocities were committed by those under his command, yet it is probable that the accounts of them which have come down to us are highly coloured. Whatever Rupert's demerits as a soldier may have been, it should not be forgotten that the constitution of the royal army was not such as to lead to victory. Lord Lindsey nominally held the chief command, but Rupert was General of the Horse, and, as Miss Scott points out, was completely independent. He was, it is true, instructed to consult the Council of War, but this can have been only a form, intended to pacify others, for he was also directed "to advise privately, as you shall think fit, and to govern your resolution accordingly." The division of authority

went even further than this, for to his request that he might be permitted to receive orders only from the king himself Charles was weak enough to accede, thus "dividing the army into two independent parties, and establishing a fruitful source of discord between the cavalry and infantry."

For his want of judicious leading in the great battles of the war Rupert may have been blamed more severely than his conduct deserved; but however this may be, he was assuredly treated unjustly after the surrender of Bristol. It would have been impossible to hold the town many days longer. The castle might have been defended, but this would have entailed the loss of a great part of the cavalry, without any corresponding advantage, for there was really no hope of relief. The king cannot be said to have had an army in the field, though there were bodies of men under arms scattered in various places who were for the most part quite independent of each other, and had Rupert continued to defend either the town or the castle it would certainly have led to such needless bloodshed, probably to the sack of the city and an indiscriminate slaughter of the inhabitants, such as disgraced the subsequent Irish campaign. The Parliamentary soldiery were becoming fierce—the fate of the defenders of the Pryor's Hill fort, where no quarter was given, indicates their temper and what might have been the fate of the city had it continued to hold out. Rupert's whole career demonstrates that he was not a coward; we may well believe, besides, that he understood his own position better than either his ancient or modern critics. Another motive may not have been without its influence. He had from the first taken a statesman's view of the struggle between king and Parliament, and had, therefore, been anxious for an accommodation; and had he possessed that overwhelming influence over the king which was confidently attributed to him, terms might have been arranged and future suffering avoided. It may have seemed to him that in the then condition of the Royal fortunes a chance of peace was offered which would pass away if the war were indefinitely prolonged. Col. Butler, who convoyed him and his retreating forces from Bristol to Oxford, was much impressed by the conversation which took place on the way. He says in a letter to Waller:—

"I had the honour to wait upon His Highness Prince Rupert with a convoy from Bristol to this place, and, seriously, I am glad I had the happiness to see him. I am confident we have been much mistaken in our intelligence concerning him. I find him a man much inclined to a happy peace, and he will certainly employ his interest with His Majesty for the accomplishing of it. I make it my request to you that you use some means that my pamphlet is printed that may derogate from his work for the delivery of Bristow. On my word he could not have held it unless it had been better manned."

After the surrender of Bristol, Rupert had no influence whatever with the king. Now it was the turn of Digby, who hated him. On Rupert's entry into Oxford he was discharged from the army, and bidden, in a letter from the king, "to seek subsistence somewhere beyond seas." It was the

popular report that he had been bribed by the Parliament, but we cannot believe that Charles can have attached credit to such a falsehood, though it seems that the queen, who was in Paris, gave currency to the fable in France. Before his departure he had a painful interview with the king at Newark. If reported correctly, it shows the utter incapacity of Charles to hold his own among the plotters by whom he was environed. At times he must have felt this keenly, but had not strength of will to break the toils. "I am but a child. Digby can do what he will with me," he said bitterly to his nephew during this their last interview.

Rupert soon after obtained the necessary pass from the Parliament and left England. For some time he served in the French army. His career there, though in no way dishonourable, was unsatisfactory. After this he became connected with the Royalist fleet, the greater part of which consisted of vessels which had revolted from the Parliament. Rupert was, as ever, energetic, but the materials he had were not serviceable. The sailors were mutinous, and the commanders were suspected of traitorous dealings, for it was well known that when they revolted from the Parliament loyalty had little to do with their conduct. Rupert did what he could, and worked very hard. His previous career could not have led even his warmest admirers to believe that his energies would have spent themselves in such uncongenial labour as giving attention to the sale of prizes and the purchase of ships' stores. His correspondence, however, shows that he entered into the minutest details with a conscientiousness which has often been lacking in more recent days. He was a favourite with the sailors, and it appears to have been owing to his personal influence that the fleet did not mutiny.

After the execution of the king he took to the sea with the avowed purpose of preying upon the commerce of England. Was this piracy? According to our present notions it looks like it, for Charles II. at that time can hardly be regarded as a belligerent. The damage done to our trade has not, so far as we know, been estimated. There is no doubt that exaggeration took place on both sides, but from such scanty notices as we have seen the loss must have been considerable. Rupert's career at this period was full of danger, but highly picturesque. It is much to be desired that a detailed account could be recovered, but this is most unlikely. Though often in great peril, he escaped unhurt, but his brother Maurice's ship went down with all hands and much treasure on board, somewhere in the West Indian seas.

After the Restoration Rupert became something of a popular hero. His private life may not have been all that is required when judged by the stricter code of our own day, but he avoided the wanton display of evil living indulged in by so many of both sexes about the Court, that filled the country with disgust. His services in the war with the Dutch won him admiration. His kindness to the distressed Royalists was long remembered; it was really great, considering his limited means. Whether he was ever married will probably remain a mystery. The evidence seems to indicate that Francesca Bard was

his wife after some unacknowledged fashion. She was a Papist—and this may have thrown difficulties in the way of a public avowal of the union if there were one—a daughter of Viscount Bellamont, an Irish peer, one of the wilder spirits among the Cavaliers, with whom Rupert must have been familiar in the early days of the war. We know little about him, except the highly creditable fact that he pleaded earnestly, though unsuccessfully, for the life of Francis Windebank, the unhappy governor of Blechingdon House, who had been condemned to death by a court-martial at Oxford for surrendering the fortress to Cromwell in April, 1645. The poor fellow suffered from what appears to have been a cruel, if not unjust sentence.

*The Works of Lord Byron.* A New, Revised, and Enlarged Edition, with Illustrations.—*Letters and Journals.* Vol. IV. Edited by Rowland E. Prothero, M.A. (Murray.)

MR. PROTHERO'S last year's work on the prose writings of Lord Byron cannot be charged with lack of interesting result or with want of richness and raciness in the material with which it deals. Although so long an interval as a year between the volumes—and it was on July 22nd, 1899, that we reviewed the third volume of the 'Letters and Journals'—tends to dull the lighter side of the reader's interest in a work essentially continuous in its character, the true permanent interest in so capital a contribution to English literature is not much affected by the length of interval between the issue of one volume and that of the next; and, of course, in the all-important matter of thoroughness, a little delay is certain to bring about some favourable results. There will always be threads of research to follow up, consents to publication to be obtained, obstructions to be removed, and so on; and although the ultimate revision of a work serially issued like the present is an inevitable consequence of its plan of publication, the less the contents of each volume have in the end to be disturbed the better for every one. Each instalment of this important work serves to point anew our regret that it is not found "politic" to give precise details of the new material and its sources, and we still hope that in the end considerations of general convenience may prevail over those of policy so far as to bring about a complete indication, in the work itself, of the sources of all this vast array of letters, and so save the otherwise inevitable waste of industry necessary for an outside index or tabulation to take the place of what the book itself should contain. To show the importance of the additional letters and new collations, it is but needful to repeat what Mr. Prothero himself states at the close of the preface to this fourth volume,

"that the last letter in the volume, dated March 31, 1820, and addressed to Hoppner, is numbered 366 in Moore's 'Life' (1830); in Halleck's American edition of Byron's 'Works' (1849) it is numbered 431; in this edition it is the 785th."

But in point of fact these figures considerably understate the case, inasmuch as they do not take account of the separately numbered letters in the appendix to vol. iii.,

many of which are placed in the appendix on the simple ground that they did not reach the editor soon enough to be inserted in their proper positions—a misfortune which will, of course, have to be remedied in the ultimate edition of Byron's letters. Of the 173 which appear in the fourth volume, now before us, 56 are, we are told, believed to be now published for the first time. "Among the new materials," says Mr. Prothero,

"are seven letters to Richard Belgrave Hoppner, as well as those to Mrs. Leigh, the Hansons, John Murray, and Wedderburn Webster. The letters to Mrs. Leigh are printed, by permission of the owners of the copyright, from the originals in the possession of Mr. Murray."

As the letters to all these correspondents are scattered through the volume in virtue of a very proper chronological arrangement, the unwary reader might easily go away with the impression that whenever he came upon a letter to any one of the persons named he was reading a document now for the first time given to the public gaze. The general reader is but little addicted to counting; he likes his editor to do all that for him, and he should not be blamed for reading through a volume full of the fascination of Byron's strange personality without realizing that the letters addressed to the persons mentioned above are not limited in number to 56, but are, in fact, no fewer than 141—to wit, 16 to Hoppner, 10 to Mrs. Leigh, 10 to John Hanson, 4 to Charles Hanson, 97 to John Murray, and 4 to Wedderburn Webster. To Mrs. Leigh, indeed, there are 12, although two of them (unnumbered) are described as "letterets," and inserted in a foot-note to the first letter in the present volume on the ground that "leave to publish them was obtained too late for their insertion in vol. iii." The foregoing figures amply illustrate our remarks on the inconvenience of the secretive method in respect of new material. The statements quoted from the preface do not give in respect to any single letter the assurance that it is even "believed to be now published for the first time." The student is left to sort by means of almost endless collations the 56 to which that belief applies from a total of at least 143; and the wording of the editorial statement leaves it at least doubtful whether the area of search is limited even to the 143, and does not in fact extend to the whole contents of the volume. Hence no reviewer who values his reputation or that of his paper should venture to say, "Here is an admirable new letter of Byron's," unless he has had six months or so to devote to the scrupulous examination of a truly portentous mass of material.

In one instance identification has, it is true, been left, perhaps through inadvertence, not quite so formidable an operation. It is that of the seven letters to Hoppner believed to be published for the first time in this fourth volume. After mentioning that the text of 138 letters "has been prepared by collation with the originals," Mr. Prothero states that no collation has been made "in the case of 31 of the letters printed by Moore, including 15 to himself, 9 to Hoppner," &c. Now, as the total number of letters to Hoppner contained in the volume is 16, and 9 have been printed

by Moore, it follows that the remaining 7 are the 7 believed to be new; and their identification is merely a matter of taking the remainder after ransacking Moore for the 9 reprinted from his text.

The letters now given cover the period from November, 1816, to March, 1820, a period including Byron's residence at Venice, his trip to Rome, and a part of his stay in the Guiccioli Palace at Ravenna. The importance of the period as one of literary production is indicated by the fact that to it belong 'Manfred,' the fourth canto of 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage,' 'Beppo,' and cantos i. to iv. of 'Don Juan.' In intimate personal matters the period is marked by the poet's amours with Marianna Segati and "the Fornarina," his more lasting *liaison* with the Countess Guiccioli (whose noble relations do not appear to have been much more sensitive to her shame than the respective husbands of Marianna and "the Fornarina"), and the further development of his unpleasant relations with Claire Clairmont, the mother of his little daughter Allegra, whose full legal name appears to have been Clara Allegra Byron Clairmont, and concerning whose brief and hapless existence much is to be gleaned from this volume.

The letters to Mrs. Leigh still strike one as very frank and genuine, though not always of capital interest. One of those printed in the foot-note at pp. 2 and 3 expresses a hope that his sister has received by the post that little journal which was printed from the manuscript in vol. iii., and which starts with the statement, "I shall keep a short journal of each day's progress for my sister Augusta." In the letter now given it is described as "a little journal of a journey in and on the Alps, which I sent you early this month [October, 1816], having kept it on purpose for you." The other letter in the foot-note duplicates, though not in identical words, an account given in a further letter to Mrs. Leigh of a few days' later date of a quarrelsome escapade of Dr. Polidori's, which is said to have determined Byron to dismiss him.

Allegra was born on January 12th, 1817, according to the baptismal certificate printed at p. 123. Byron, presumably not having that document before him, writes of her on May 27th following as "two or three months old." The letter—to Mrs. Leigh, of course—contains the following passages:—

"I shall be glad to hear from or of you, and of your children and mine. By the way, it seems that I have got another—a daughter by that same lady, whom you will recognize by what I said of her in former letters—I mean *her* who returned to England to become a Mamma *incog.*, and whom I pray the Gods to keep there. I am a little puzzled how to dispose of this new production (which is two or three months old, though I did not receive the accounts till at Rome), but shall probably send for and place it in a Venetian convent, to become a good Catholic, and (it may be) a Nun, being a character somewhat wanted in our family.

"They tell me it is very pretty, with blue eyes and dark hair; and, although I never was attached nor pretended attachment to the mother, still in case of the eternal war and alienation which I foresee about my legitimate daughter, Ada, it may be as well to have something to repose a hope upon. I must love something in my old age, and probably circumstances

will render this poor little creature a great and, perhaps, my only comfort."

It is unfortunate that, as recorded in an editorial note, the conclusion of this letter is missing. The child thus spoken of was taken from England to Italy by the Shelleys and Claire in the spring of 1818; and a Swiss nurse who had been in Mrs. Shelley's service took her on from Milan to Venice to her father, who on August 3rd, 1818, wrote to Mrs. Leigh thus:—

"My little girl, Allegra (the child I spoke to you of), has been with me these three months: she is very pretty, remarkably intelligent, and a great favourite with everybody; but, what is remarkable, much more like Lady Byron than her mother—so much so as to stupefy the learned Fletcher and astonish me. Is it not odd? I suppose she must also resemble her sister, Ada: she has very blue eyes, and that singular forehead, fair curly hair, and a devil of a Spirit—but that is Papa's."

The two mentions of the child's hair must not be taken as inconsistent. Children born with dark hair not uncommonly have fair hair after a year or two. Allegra's, according to the miniature portrait of her in the possession of Mr. Buxton Forman, was distinctly fair, and her eyes "very blue"; and between that portrait and the picture of Lady Byron painted in oil by James Ramsay, and now in the possession of Mr. James Ward, there is indeed a striking resemblance. To Lord Lovelace's miniature of Ada that of Allegra bears no likeness whatever. For a chance and choice sample of the "devil of a spirit" which was "Papa's" there is no need to seek beyond the page (250) from which the last extract is taken. From the following passage in a letter to Murray it is to be judged that the ultimate collection of Byron's letters will not be wanting in frankness of self-revelation:—

"Tell young Hammond that his *Dama*—the Countess S<sup>a</sup> fell into my hands after his departure, that the consequence was a violent quarrel between her and the Taruscelli ["Arpalice Taruscelli, a famous operatic singer"], who, finding us out, has been playing the devil, setting Fanni by the Ears with Melandri, her Roman Admirer, and, by means of espionage and anonymous letters, doing a world of mischief, besides row between herself and her Austrian, and finally between herself and me too. She is gone to Padua—by the blessing of the Gods. The Sp<sup>a</sup>. [Spaniard?] came back to-day from Treviso. You won't understand all this, but Hammond will; so tell him of it."

Here is a chance for a twentieth-century annotator! For ourselves, it suffices us to speculate what the poor child

With eyes—oh, speak not of her eyes!—

lost and gained by the early death that removed her from the possibility of contamination by the women in whose company she had to live, and also from that of forming so strong a tie with her strange father as to stand between him and his doom at Missolonghi. That she won upon him and held a place in his regard, notwithstanding his performance of the strange threat to hand her over to the nuns, we gather from the avowal to his sister (p. 389) that the health of the little one was among the obstacles to a visit to England in December, 1819; and it is impossible to say that her fascination, so strong in the case of

Shelley, might not have become equally strong for her wayward sire.

Writing to Richard Belgrave Hoppner on December 15th, 1817, Byron is very polite to his brother poet about a certain elegy communicated by the latter—praises the composition both for its politics and for its poetry, and ends by saying:—

"My own sentiments on Venice, etc., such as they are, I had already thrown into verse last summer, in the fourth canto of 'Childe Harold,' now in preparation for the press; and I think much more highly of them, for being in coincidence with yours."

On the next page (190) begins that letter to Murray which we are accustomed to read in the 'Poetical Works' in six six-line stanzas, dated January 8th, 1818, and beginning:—

My dear Mr. Murray,  
You're in a damned hurry  
To set up this ultimate Canto;  
But (if they don't rob us)  
You'll see Mr. Hobhouse  
Will bring it safe in his portmanteau.

This racy epistle we now read in the 'Letters and Journals,' in eleven stanzas (though even these, it seems, are not all). The familiar composition consists of stanzas 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, and 9 of the present eleven; and the name omitted from the old stanza 3 and supplied in the present stanza 4 is that of Sotheby:—

Then you've Sotheby's tour,  
No great things, to be sure,—

a work on which Byron projected a skit, but never completed it—leaving a fragment which is published as Appendix V. to this volume. The present stanza 3 is:—

In the mean time you've "Galley"  
Whose verses all tally,  
Perhaps you may say he's a Ninny,  
But if you abashed are  
Because of *Alashtar*,  
He'll drivel another *Phrosyne*.

Mr. Prothero misses an annotator's legitimate opportunity in not telling his readers that "Galley" is Henry Gally Knight, the author of (among other things) 'Phrosyne, a Grecian Tale,' and 'Alashtar, an Arabian Tale,' who lived to be angry enough at Byron's treatment of his poems without seeing the ribald stanza just quoted. Of Sotheby and his now forgotten translations the noble satirist speaks thus:—

No doubt he's a rare man  
Without knowing German  
Translating his way up Parnassus,  
And now still absurder  
He meditates Murder  
As you'll see in the trash he calls *Tasso's*.

We are not left in doubt that the piece was a veritable *crescendo* of ribaldry. Stanzas 10 and 11 are as follows:—

Now tell me some news  
Of your friends and the Muse  
Of the Bar, or the Gown, or the House,  
From Canning, the tall wit,  
To Wilmot, the small wit,  
Ward's creeping Companion and *Louse*,  
Who's so damnably bit  
With fashion and wit,  
That he crawls on the surface like Vermin,  
But an Insect in both,—  
By his Intellect's growth  
Of what size you may quickly determine.

Stanzas 12, 13, and 14, it seems, "overgo" even this, for Mr. Prothero says they "cannot be published."

Mr. John Cam Hobhouse must have started with the MS. of the fourth canto of

'Childe Harold' "safe in his portmanteau" before these stanzas were sent off, for a letter dated January 19th, advising the dispatch of the MS. of 'Beppo' by post, refers to him as having "left Venice a fortnight ago, saving two days," and says, "He has the whole of the MSS.; so put up prayers in your back shop, or in the printer's 'Chapel.'" "MSS." is a vulgarism used by Byron for "manuscript" (singular).

On the whole, these enlarged and revised letters, while they do not tend to increase our respect for Byron, consolidate the sense of his magnitude as a figure in English literature, and are as attractive in some particulars as they are repellent in others.

The photo-sculptures executed by Messrs. Walker & Boutall for this fourth volume include, besides a highly successful one of the portrait of Lady Byron by Ramsay, a pretty portrait of the Countess Guiccioli, after a drawing by Count d'Orsay, but whether the photo-sculpture was taken directly from the drawing or from an engraved representation of it is not stated. A third of these illustrations is a most unpleasing portrait of Mrs. Leigh, from a drawing by T. C. Wageman; and a fourth is from a portrait by Daniel Maclise of Giovanni Battista Falcieri, better known as "Tita." There are also two pretty enough Venetian views.

*Études sur l'Antiquité Grecque.* Par H. Weil.  
(Hachette & Cie.)

It is but a short time since a whole tribe of scholars united to do honour to M. H. Weil on the attainment of his eightieth year by dedicating to him a volume of their essays. The veteran philologist makes a highly adequate return by collecting and publishing a number of reviews and sketches on Greek subjects, contributed chiefly to the *Journal des Savants*, and (with a couple of earlier essays) the work of the last seven years, hence the fruit of his ripest scholarship. M. Weil was hitherto known to most of us as the admirable editor of *Æschylus*, of *Euripides*, of *Demosthenes*, whose erudition and acuteness run in harness together perfectly, and make him the acknowledged master among French Hellenists. Now we have from him a collection of his utterances upon many departments of Greek literature, showing his wide sympathy for every field of that incomparable domain. Epic, lyric, dramatic poets, orators and philosophers, all are represented in his studies, not to speak of many phases of old Greek life suggested to him by the works he reviews. It is indeed a rare privilege for any author to be reviewed by so sure and sympathetic a hand; for the reader it is a double advantage to know not only what M. Weil thinks about a book, but what he has to say on the subject which the book treats.

Two elaborate essays on Rohde's 'Psyche,' which discuss the Greek notions on the immortality of the soul, open the volume. All that we know concerning the Eleusinian and the Orphic mysteries is put in evidence, as are also those little-known plaques of gold found in Italic tombs, which provide the dead with directions and with formulæ of justification for his journeys in the next world. These are justly compared with the

Egyptian 'Book of the Dead'; there is even a definite suggestion that the worship of Demeter at Eleusis had a direct filiation from that of the Egyptian Isis. Speculations, however, on this subject are of necessity unsatisfactory. The Greek beliefs regarding the cult of the dead and the immortality of the soul were not only vague and various—they could hardly be anything else—but deliberately shrouded from discussion in their mysteries, which most men knew, but no one would dare to divulge.

We turn to the essays upon the novelties of the last ten years, in which Bacchylides, Hypereides, and Menander, as well as the curious fragment of Pherecydes, are discussed. We regret not to find the 'Antiope' of Euripides, Aristotle, and Herondas in the list; for it is through such short and easy studies by first-class scholars that the intelligent public can ascertain the enormous strides made by Greek philology during the past decade.

M. Weil's estimate of Bacchylides is eminently satisfactory. His literary judgment is not blinded by pedantry, nor has he accepted the sneers of a jealous, though successful rival as the standard by which he should judge the lesser lyric poet. Bacchylides possesses merits of his own, quite apart from any comparisons. His narrative of the meeting of Heracles and Meleager in Hades has a pathos for which we seek in vain in Pindar; his short poems, which critics now incline to recognize as dithyrambs, are not only the revelation of a long-lost type of Greek melic poetry, but are remarkable for their dramatic vivacity. It is in the course of this essay that we find the suggestive remark:—

"Les Grecs étaient de grands enfants; ils aimèrent qu'on leur contât quelque chose. Les poètes chanteurs avaient beau succéder aux poètes conteurs, les récits fleurissaient toujours: ils étaient l'ornement le plus beau et le plus apprécié des compositions lyriques."

Our author might have added that this law is not violated by the drama which succeeded. Revelations of pure subjectivity in the poet, such as are esteemed in our *fin de siècle* poetry, were not consistent with Greek taste, except in the Lesbian school, and that school seems to have enjoyed but little influence and brief popularity throughout the Hellenic world, in spite of its rare excellence. Were it not that Horace built his odes upon it, we should only know it from a dozen brief fragments of real poetry, and some hundred difficulties of dialect or phrase which attracted grammarians. In Greece therefore, at all events, no poetry wanting in objectivity could ever be truly popular. The very word *drama* shows that the things done in the play, and not the emotions felt, were the primary object of interest. But we must not let ourselves be tempted into further speculations. M. Weil also engages in a discussion on the history and meaning of the Greek word *poet* (ποιητής), originally, of course, a maker or artificer generally, then gradually the maker of a story, then of a story in verse, as opposed to a prose writer, or an actor (in the case of a play). He notes a very similar narrowing of the word *composer* both in French and English. Originally general, it has now come to mean a maker only of music, and as distinct from the performer of it.

As there are spots even upon the sun, so we will note in conclusion two points where M. Weil's intellectual vigilance has gone asleep. Every one who has done continuous and arduous work, such, for example, as deciphering, knows that moments of mental blindness, *alias* stupidity, come upon him, when he misses obvious things, and stumbles over sham difficulties. M. Weil, in criticizing Dr. Grenfell's note on the  $\epsilon$  (Greek for 6) on the fragment of Pherecydes, which the decipherer understands as meant for chap. 6, proposes to read it 600, and holds it to be a stichometric note. But in Greek 600 is uniformly X; the episemon  $\epsilon$  with a flourish over it is 6,000, never 600.

The other matter is only a sin of omission. M. Weil justly protests against the rejection of a well-known passage in the 'Antigone,' in which Sophocles seems to have borrowed from his friend Herodotus a pointless point. Antigone says that to her a brother is far more valuable than a possible husband or children. The well-known anecdote in Herodotus (iii. 119) of the lady who saves her brother in preference to her actual husband and children, to the astonishment of King Darius, is in no way incredible if we consider the influence of clan feeling in many primitive societies. There are some in which the husband is regarded as a sort of necessary interloper, whom his wife readily postpones to her clan and its interests. Where Mutterrecht prevails he does not even succeed to her property, and when the children come to be regarded as his, and not hers, there is a conflict between the clan-feeling and nature, which ends in the victory of nature. But the lady in Herodotus represents the old and curious domination of the clan, and the story is thus, psychologically, of the highest interest. Many an Irishwoman has taken part in a faction fight for her brother against her husband; there are districts where she continues to be known after marriage by her maiden surname. These are the considerations which would have added interest to M. Weil's discussion, though it is plain that they were not before the mind of Sophocles. Possibly the mother-in-law of fiction may be the last echo in our society of that desire to retain for the married woman her close connexion with her own clan, to the detriment of her husband, who appears to be no more than a privileged stranger.

*The Life of Charlotte Brontë.* By Mrs. Gaskell. With an Introduction and Notes by Clement K. Shorter. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

MRS. GASKELL'S place is undisturbed as the judicious and affectionate historian of Haworth. Though her primary concern was with Charlotte Brontë, she was yet in effect the biographer of all the sisters—chronicler of the essential things in the destiny of a famous household. It may be felt at times, it is true, that she did not wholly appreciate the genius of Emily Brontë; it is almost certain that Emily's personality was occasionally a puzzle to her more worldly, if always womanly, nature. Be that as it may, she did not attempt to analyze its mystery; she gave the human, workaday facts as she knew them, leaving

the rest to the perception and the imagination of after time. Whether by intuition or otherwise she seemed to realize how much there was in the creator of Heathcliff and Catherine with which biography and even penetrative criticism have nothing to do. These things are of the mystery of genius, and will speak age after age to the discerning soul according to the measure of its discernment. They are below or beyond analysis; the expression of their subtlety for ever eludes even the subtlest words. In Charlotte Brontë, her main theme, she had not so extraordinarily distinctive a subject, though one, perhaps, of more general appeal. Here, too, she recognized in the main those essential things which it is the province of worthy biography to recount; the soul fact, so to say, is for us to realize, or attempt to realize, from the greater work of Charlotte Brontë herself. The Haworth life, and all else of her pages, broadly outlined, delicately detailed where detail is necessary, strike us happily, and justify themselves to the imagination; the best testimony to the work is that we can read it with no sense of lapse, of alien intrusion or patchwork after the memorable series of the sisters' stories themselves. It is as if a beloved relative, when death had taken the great ones of a household mutually dear, went with us over the old scenes and recounted the old associations. Not genius, but fidelity and affection we should expect in that recital. And some such touching complement or after-tale we find in the happiest orders of biography. Mrs. Gaskell, of course, had not been in an especial degree the intimate of the Brontë sisters, but she was a tactful and a true friend; she knew their work and their ordeals; she brought affection and no little insight to bear upon her labour; and, to emphasize again an almost equally important fact, she realized how much, when we touch the story of genius, must be left to the imagination, the reverie, of the souls that can understand. A revealing and admirable biographer, it is still her subject, or rather her subjects, that really speak; she stands in no obtrusive fashion between us and Haworth.

Generally speaking, Mr. Shorter in his own way is also happily judicious. To be sure, in a number of his foot-notes he touches upon things of no moment, or very little at the best. We are not greatly concerned to know that Charlotte Brontë considered the notions of Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. on the subject of punctuation more rational than her own in September, 1847. That she desired to have the sheets of the third volume of 'Jane Eyre' along with those of the second is no very illuminating piece of information. Mrs. Gaskell said that Brantwell Brontë's name was omitted from his aunt's will; Mr. Shorter triumphantly points out that the good lady left him her Japanese dressing-box. Mr. Shorter certainly has a comprehensive taste for external details of Brontë and Haworth lore; one almost feels that he must needs come to dwell some day in a house thatched with Haworth heath. But the notes in question are in modest, unobtrusive type, like humble and minor plant-life that one can easily ignore in one's walks over the larger reaches of the great moors. But a good deal of his labour of love is helpful (full names,

to take a small point, are substituted for the initials that were advisable here and there in Mrs. Gaskell's day). Mr. Shorter takes every opportunity of setting the character of the Rev. Patrick Brontë in the most favourable light that is possible; it is a necessary and a kindly deed. There is something touching in the decision of the old and all but helpless man to write his daughter's biography and to do justice to her memory, if he failed in finding a hand, amongst the writers who had known her, that he was confident was more fitted for the task. To come to a minor matter, which yet we believe has been regarded in fair quarters as a grave one, Mr. Shorter, in court parlance, produces evidence to show that the story of the havoc once wrought by Mr. Brontë on a new dress of his wife's is an unfortunate legend. The actual facts, as vouched for by the editor's witness, put the head of the household in a really pleasant light, though by no means up to date in his knowledge and comprehension of fashions.

Mr. Shorter, on the whole, does not modify Mrs. Gaskell's estimate of Charlotte Brontë on any essential issue. The Charlotte Brontë of some of the new letters is, indeed, a great contrast to the Charlotte Brontë of others; but it is simply the old question of the difference between her hours of high intensity, of kindled imagination, of vivid passion and perception, and her ordinary, fallible moments—a matter of which we said something in considering Mrs. Ward's recent estimates of the sisters. As to the critics who have pictured the author of 'Villette' in less gloomy social guise than did her first biographer, Mr. Shorter is inclined to see truth in both views, depending on the Celtic element in her nature as an explanation of "alternate high spirits and boundless exhilaration followed by long periods of depression and melancholy." Thus stated, it would seem that the Celtic nature is somewhat haphazard, or suggestive of a sort of see-saw temperament, if we may so speak. When there is question of sensitive souls, Celtic or otherwise, gifted with more than normal perception, sympathy, and vision, and alert to the significance of the simple as well as the dramatic and fateful trends of life, it is hard to define the potentialities and proportions of daily light and shadow. Joy and gloom will not be the unalloyed, alternating facts that are shown in Mr. Shorter's picture. And, furthermore, it is possible that a soul whose guiding destiny is tragic, whose secret places are shaded, may yet have its gleams in its workaday world. Such a soul was Charlotte Brontë.

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*Social Life in the British Army.* By a British Officer. Illustrated by R. Caton Woodville. (Long.)

In a preface, which is by no means the worst part of this book, the important question of officers' expenses is dealt with, and some of the author's remarks are sensible and suggestive. He naturally observes that "there are not wanting signs that some attempt may ere long be made to place the officer in a better financial position, both by reducing his necessary expenses and by some additions to the amount of his daily pay."

And should such a change in the financial position of the officer be made, it may also involve a change in his social position, for though the son of the professional man—officer or civilian—will then be able to accept a commission, the son of a man of a lower position will be his competitor and comrade. At present officers are drawn either from the cultured and refined classes or from the ordinary privates, *i.e.*, not gentlemen rankers. As regards the ordinary "enlisted man," as the Americans would call him, there are and have been some who have adorned their new position and successfully made the army their profession, but as a rule they are not able to rise above the rank of captain or major, and from financial reasons their position is not altogether satisfactory. We are speaking of the ordinary combatant officer, not of the quartermaster, &c. So much is this fact recognized that many excellent sergeants decline the offer of a commission. It is different with the gentleman ranker. Provided that he has not been retained too long in the ranks, he may easily resume his original social position, and generally his friends can afford him a little financial help. Assuredly some steps will have to be taken for altering matters, as it is most undesirable that the private allowance of an infantry subaltern should be, as the author tells us, a minimum of 150*l.* a year, and of a cavalry subaltern 600*l.* a year. We fancy that with economy an infantry officer, if started clear, can, in an economical regiment at a reasonably cheap station, do with an allowance of 120*l.* a year, after he has obtained the rank of lieutenant; but as to the cavalry, we are sure that in some of the more expensive regiments 600*l.* a year would be too little. It will be a most delicate and difficult operation to cut down the obligatory expenses of an officer. Several attempts have been made to do so, but they have invariably failed because they were not made in earnest. To succeed would require a strong man as Commander-in-Chief, who should obtain the zealous co-operation of the generals and commanding officers. Moreover, the support of public opinion is essential, and of that the reformer can be sure. It cannot be pretended that a style of living that is good enough for a naval officer is not good enough for a military officer. At the same time absurdly exaggerated notions exist as to the luxury and extravagance of the regimental mess. The remarks of the continental press on that subject are absolutely comic. That a mess is a most excellent educational institution cannot be denied; all the more reason, therefore, that it should not fall into disrepute through extravagance. Several costly habits might be corrected with advantage. Even expenses at manoeuvres have increased of late years:

"It is now the usual thing for hospital marquees to be issued for mess purposes, and if there is a marquee, it means a dinner table, and a table means chairs, and chairs for sitting on at meals usually lead to chairs of a more luxurious description for sitting on after meals, and so the whole style of living gradually improves, which all means that extra expense is incurred, because the military authorities will not provide transport for these extra articles, and consequently civilian transport has to be hired. The more things there are to [be] carried, the more things are broken and destroyed, at least that is my experience; for on manoeuvres

only a very limited amount of time for packing is available, consequently, the larger the establishment, the more must be done in a given time, and the more damage is done. In this way the expense of manoeuvres to the officers concerned has crept up gradually, and it has now reached such a pitch that after the Salisbury Plain manoeuvres last year a report on the subject of the extra expense caused by them to individual officers was called for, and I fancy we may see changes for the better before very long.....We all know that 'an army marches on its belly,' and it should be by no means beneath the dignity of any officer, however highly placed, to devise some method for ensuring the proper cooking in the field of the food of all ranks. My own idea is that the question of messing on manoeuvres could be simplified in great measure by the announcement that a certain weight of mess kit for each regiment would be carried in the baggage waggons, this weight being calculated for a supply of the necessary equipment only, and that no private carts of any description, except only carts bringing supplies of food, would be allowed to approach the precincts of the camps. By this regulation the taking of easy-chairs, iron bedsteads, carpets, mess plate and other unnecessary luxuries would be absolutely prohibited, and expenses would be cut down very largely. As the experiences of our campaigns show, the British officer is quite as well able to rough it as any one else; at present he does not think it necessary to rough it on manoeuvres, but endeavours on the contrary to maintain the credit of his regiment by the style in which he lives, even when his abiding place is shifted daily. The authorities have given a lead to some extent by forbidding mess uniform to be worn on manoeuvres, but they might go a little bit further, and officers of high rank might show in their own style of living in camp that such luxuries as arm-chairs, Persian rugs and sparkling wines were better left behind..... In my brief description of the expenses of manoeuvres at home I should have made some allusion to the extra allowance given to officers when under canvas, which allowance is, in many regiments, intercepted by the mess before it reaches the pocket of its rightful owner, thus defraying to some extent the extra cost due to moving about the mess establishment with the manoeuvring forces. This allowance is, however, not a particularly generous one, amounting to three shillings a day for a captain or a subaltern in command of a company, half a crown for the ordinary subaltern, rising to four shillings in the case of field officers. As the manoeuvre period proper rarely lasts longer than some ten or twelve days it will be easily seen that the total amount which these officers can draw is by no means an extravagant one and is only a small contribution towards the sum-total of their expenses. Officially this field allowance is looked upon as something approaching to the inexhaustible purse of Fortunatus."

In this generally accurate little book the social life of the men as well as that of the officers is dealt with, and the text is accompanied by some spirited and accurate illustrations. We would remark, however, that we never saw a London policeman salute "an officer of the guard on his rounds," as he is represented doing in the illustration facing p. 20.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*The Mesmerists.* By B. L. Farjeon. (Hutchinson & Co.)

MR. FARJEON has taken the bold step of dramatizing his own novel, or rather "novelizing" his own drama, and printing

both in the same volume for the edification of his readers. It is a hazardous experiment, but any one who may have a share in presenting the play will probably be glad to have the benefit of the author's more detailed version of the characters concerned. The novel, of course, is a considerable expansion of the original framework, and the villain Laval can spread himself to his full dimensions in conversation and otherwise. "Lady Diana Farquhar," too, the eminently aristocratic aunt of Valerie's lover (how Diana Hess, by marrying an English nobleman, could become "Lady Diana" is not obvious), has a wider field for her absurdities, although her valetudinarianism and her asides to her maid are sufficiently emphasized in the play. Frida, the village girl who is Maubray's medium, has a greater part in the novel, but even there she does not seem to exercise the effect which one would look for. In fact, the two mesmerists—the good one and the naughty one, as children would say—are most unevenly matched throughout, and Maubray's mesmeric power seems rather an after-thought. As a philanthropist and tender father and husband he is of the stage stagey, yet there is a touch of dignity in the tragic catastrophe which overwhelms his enemy and releases his vexed spirit from the oppression of a calamitous past.

*The Goddess.* By Richard Marsh. (White & Co.)

THE *dea ex machina* who plays so dire a part in the mysterious murder at Imperial Mansions reflects credit on the imagination of the author. The solution of the problem, which baffles Scotland Yard as well as the suspected pair who find eventual solace in matrimony, is postponed with a skill that is equally creditable. There is a good deal of naïve humour about Ferguson and his narrative, and the practical joke of locking up the coroner and his jury in the sanded parlour of the tavern where the 'quest is held is justified by its important bearing on the eventful flight of John Ferguson and the divine Bessie Moore, which brings with it the final discovery. 'The Goddess' has merit as a shocker, and, in spite of some slips like "suppositious," it is fairly well written.

*The Uttermost Farthing.* By B. Paul Neuman. (Blackwood & Sons.)

MR. NEUMAN'S heroine describes herself quite accurately as a "very strenuous person." In her early youth she gives the impression of a capable but ill-featured young woman of a vengeful nature, soured by a series of family misfortunes and bowed down by a weight of disagreeable responsibilities. Time and prosperity, however, have a beneficial effect upon Nora Croft's character, though as a heroine she is never attractive. Gradually she is forced to learn the lesson of tolerance towards the family of the man who was her father's friend, and whom, for reasons not wholly valid, she persists in regarding as the arch-enemy of her house and founder of its misfortunes. Finally, trouble of the same sort overtakes the Medletts; long-awaited-for vengeance is within her grasp, but love, coming rather

late into her life, obliges her to forswear her childish vendetta, and to pay the sum of forgiveness to its uttermost farthing. Apart from this one character, which, if treated with too many heroics, is carefully studied, the book concerns itself with a peculiarly uninteresting class of people, and has no particularly remarkable quality to recommend it.

*The Voice of the People.* By Ellen Glasgow. (Heinemann.)

'THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE' is by a comparatively new writer. The trend and matter of the actual story are not of any particularly notable nor distinctive kind. They deal with the career of an ambitious high-souled rustic—a boy who from nothing reaches a position of importance in his native state. The hopes, despairs, successes and failures, and other vicissitudes that meet him on his path, are described with some vividness. But there is more than this to attract the reader, and more especially those with a liking for tales of the Southern American states. These latter are a happy hunting ground for clever novelists across the Atlantic. Since 'The Open Question' and a book by Mrs. Burnett we do not remember any story with so fine a Southern setting and background for character as this. Where it is not plot and incident it is a series of bright, soft pictures of nature itself, of luxuriant gardens, and of people instinct with droll or lovable peculiarities. The life of the old Virginian landowners, the negro servants, their quaint ways, their outspoken freedom of speech, yet exceeding loyalty to Marse' This or Mis' That, are individually as well as traditionally excellent. One feels the genuine human nature of old General Battle, who keeps open house of a ruined and ruinous kind, also the sister who takes the reins of government, and the charming little daughter. Aunt Verbeny, Uncle Ish, Delphy, and her meek son-in-law Mose are also admirable. So is the household of Judge Bassett, and so, in another way, are the hard-working family of the ambitious "poor-white" hero, the farmstead, and the harsh, yet kind stepmother, and her chronic "neuralgy." All these persons, places, and things are excellent, because beneath the impressionist touch of Miss Glasgow there is a solid hold on average human nature. We perceive this in many matters, in the relations between the general and his daughter, and in a sense of an underlying unforced pathos in passing people and inanimate objects around them. The group of happy irresponsible children is charmingly drawn. Then there are the sayings and doings of the black people, often comical to a high degree. Indeed, Uncle Ish, his dignified, almost injured attitude towards the kind human ravens who supply his daily bread, is most amusing. The story is divided into books. We prefer the earlier parts, but the interest is on the whole well maintained.

*The Avenging of Ruthanna.* By Mrs. Coulson Kernahan. (Long.)

MRS. KERNAHAN'S novel 'The Avenging of Ruthanna' is more interesting than a predecessor reviewed by us in these columns. The bulk of her material is, however, the reverse of new. It is, in fact,

the old, old story of the rustic maiden and the youth of high degree, or, at any rate, of higher degree than herself. To tell this sort of story over again with any kind of freshness in sentiment and treatment must be difficult to all but master hands. But occasional touches of original feeling and quiet pathos are to be found in the short life as well as in the death of Ruthanna. Her avenging is less commendable; yet, in spite of the name given the process, it is not very unnaturally or over-sensationally evolved. One or two traits of real experience and character are well enough conveyed; but the author still seems to be unaware where the essential ends and the superfluous begins. For example, late in the story a husband, wife, and child make their appearance, or, as it were, are suddenly flung at the reader's head for no obvious reason. Indeed, for one wild and whirling moment it almost seems as though two separate novels had got entangled in the process of printing. The author has probably not much sense of humour, and it is a relief that she makes no attempts at the "funny" side of life, as she did in another story.

*The Descent of the Duchess.* By Morley Roberts. (Sands & Co.)

THERE is an hour's amusing reading in this little narrative. It tells how a duchess travelled, and fell out of a railroad car with nothing on her but a nightdress of lace and silk. She fell among friends at first, but the ladies were jealous, and difficulties arose. Ultimately she was restored to her usual associations and garments. The book is a pleasant contrast to some of the author's compositions.

*Fitzjames.* By Lilian Street. (Methuen & Co.)

AT the first blush 'Fitzjames' appears to be a singularly inane story, and the characters do but match it, especially the one who lends his name to the volume. Towards the end it becomes just a shade better. The dialogue, which had been everything dialogue should not be, picks up a little, and one is enabled to finish the volume (it is a short one) in a slightly more Christian frame of mind.

#### BOOKS FOR TOURISTS.

*A Book of Dartmoor.* By S. Baring-Gould. (Methuen & Co.)—There are three books of recent date on Dartmoor, all of them good in their respective ways—Crossing's 'Amid Devon's Alps' (1888), Page's 'Exploration of Dartmoor' (1889), and Rowe's 'Perambulation of Dartmoor,' republished in a revised form in 1896. Moreover, Mr. Baring-Gould himself devoted two chapters to this upland district in the first volume of his lately published 'Book of the West.' It therefore follows that unless an author has something decidedly new to tell, or has made some special antiquarian or historical discoveries, Dartmoor is eminently a district of which he should beware. As lovers of the West, we have read this book through with some care, and fail to find any valid reason for its being published. Mr. Baring-Gould writes, in his brief preface, disdainfully of his predecessors' unhappy ignorance of prehistoric archaeology, and remarks that they had been led astray by the false antiquarianism that had marked the early writers. But the chapter on "The Ancient Inhabitants" in this volume, though it may pass for consummate learning with the

comparatively unlettered, will only excite a smile from any antiquary versed in the story of prehistoric man in the British Isles. It is a queer medley of the elementary and the would-be profound. The marvellous number of subjects, utterly dissimilar, that are crammed into a page or two remind us irresistibly of an immortal lyric:—

"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things:  
Of shoes, and ships, and sealing-wax,  
Of cabbages, and kings,  
And why the sea is boiling hot,  
And whether pigs have wings."

Gilead and Moab, Mr. Palgrave and Arabia, the Caspian and the Caucasus, the Crimea and Etruria, the Cuban valley and the Baltic, Mecklenburg and the Balearic Isles, the Koumirs and Kabyles, Tuatha da Danaan and Firbolgs, and much more, are all jumbled up in a single long paragraph; and as we emerge breathless from its perusal, the very next sentence begins, "Let us look for a moment into China at the present day." Forthwith the reader finds himself involved in an account of the Chinese alphabet, mourning, soup, and the worshipping of ancestors. Then a contrast is drawn between the Chinese and the ancient Egyptians, and so on page after page. To put it plainly, all this is irrelevant, so far as the early settlers on Dartmoor are concerned, and it has little value from whatever point of view it is regarded. Any one with the gift of writing could reel off pages and chapters of this kind of stuff with the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' in a revolving bookcase at his elbow. There are one or two good stories that seem new, and some that are stale. Perhaps the smartest, produced as an illustration, is this:—

"What have you got on you, little girl?" asked a good woman of a shivering child. "Please, mem, first there's a jacket, then a gown, and then comes Oil."

Mr. Baring-Gould is about the most profuse and diversified writer of our time, and he has in his day produced some good and much readable matter, but a book like this can only diminish his reputation. The best thing about it are some photographic plates of Dartmoor tors.

*Hampshire, with the Isle of Wight.* By George A. B. Dewar. (Dent & Co.)—Of the making of guide-books there is no end. This is the first of a set of books "meant for the use and amusement of those who live in, as well as those who visit, the counties to be included in the series." Each of the volumes is to be made up of three parts. Part i. will consist of itineraries devoted to a particular district of the county, and telling of the scenery and the story of various places therein worth visiting. Part ii. will contain short articles on the natural history and sport of the county, contributed by experts, together with a chapter specially intended for the use of cyclists. Part iii. is to consist of a condensed gazetteer, combining antiquarian and other information about towns, villages, and churches, together with a variety of practical hints as to trains, inns, and the like. The sectional maps are to be divided into two classes—"Driving and Cycling Roads" and "Other Roads." This seems to us an excellent plan, and should produce a kind of volume decidedly superior to the ordinary run of handbooks. Hampshire opens the series, and, after a wide and practical experience of guide-books for nearly forty years, we have no hesitation in saying that it is the best of its size (350 pp.) that we have as yet seen. It is a book that the general antiquary or lover of nature as well as the county resident will delight to have on their shelves, and is wholly different from the ordinary guide-book bought for some summer outing, in the main disappointing and untrustworthy, and speedily flung aside. The first part is divided into nine itineraries, with the following titles, all of them pleasant reading, and the penultimate one wholly delightful: The Vale of the Test, Glorious

Winchester, Down and Dale, the North-West Corner, Charles Kingsley's Country, Gilbert White's Country, the British Sea, the New Forest, and the Garden of England. In the second part botany is treated by Mr. John Vaughan, entomology by Mr. G. M. A. Hewett, birds by Mr. G. B. Corbin, geology by Mr. E. Hull, fishing and shooting by the editor, and cycling by Mr. W. M. Harman. The illustrations, by Mr. J. A. Symington, are for the most part attractive, and there is none of that using up of well-worn blocks so common a feature of the cheap guide-book. The little drawing of the Anchor Inn, Liphook, is full of charm. There are nine useful sectional maps, which open well, in addition to the general map of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight in a pocket at the end of the book.

*Highways and Byways in Normandy.* By Percy Dearmer. With Illustrations by Joseph Pennell. (Macmillan & Co.)—Having already devoted attention to the byways of Antrim and Donegal, the conductors of this pleasing series of volumes lead their readers through the highways of Normandy. Most of the places which are here dealt with are familiar to English tourists who take their annual holiday at all seriously, and by this large class a cordial welcome will be extended to the book before us; for to any one who loves the orchards and spires of Normandy almost every page of this volume is charged with some agreeable reminiscences or other. Regrets at the modernization of the old walled towns of France will be tempered by satisfaction that so many quaint nooks still survive to be depicted by the artist who is able to invest the quiet street at Tinchebrai, or the beautiful spire of St. Pierre at Caen, with an indelible charm; but it may, perhaps, be not going too far to say that one or two of his drawings are so far below Mr. Pennell's usual level that we can hardly believe him to be responsible for them; we refer to the sketches on pp. 201 and 208, but more particularly to the Falaise Castle on p. 87, with a tree resembling a wicker-work balloon. It is interesting to compare Mr. Pennell's distant view of Rouen from Bon Secours (on p. 279) with that of Nicolas Tassin in his 'Villes de France' of 1636, taken from the same spot. Clever as the modern sketch is, it can hardly be denied that the old engraver has the advantage, both in accuracy of delineation and in the wonderful skill with which the idea of a multitude of houses is conveyed. Mr. Pennell seems to work in too great haste. Mr. Dearmer has shown himself a judge of what is excellent in architecture and an unsparing censor of modern disfigurements. At Avranches and elsewhere in Normandy he shows himself a somewhat more merciful critic of modern work than he has done in the case of Wells Cathedral, but his architectural views are always of interest and value. His account of the "narthex" at St. Lo may seem somewhat obscure, but he is often much more happy; take, for example, his description of St. Gervais at Falaise as "Norman in a sort of Flamboyant frock," while his defence of whitewash, in protesting against the false notion that whitewash was invented by the Puritans for purposes of defacement, is wholly judicious. He supplies an interesting account of the French counterpart of Richard Savage, the celebrated Dubourg (whose real name, by the way, was Victor de la Castagne), who was imprisoned at Mont St. Michel in a wooden cage, not dissimilar to the terrible cages of Loches, and died thus confined as late as August 27th, 1746. Readable, too, is his description of the Privilege of St. Romain, the privilege, namely, to release a condemned criminal every Ascension Day, as exercised by the chapter of Rouen Cathedral; or, again, of Montgomery's vigorous defence of Domfront in 1574, though he omits to mention two facts of interest to the English reader—that

the castle was built by William of Bellême and reconstructed by Henry I. We cannot share Mr. Dearmer's scepticism in regard to the English origin of the Tour Talbot at Falaise. On *à priori* grounds alone it seems to be improbable that this huge tower could have been built to reinforce the old donjon early in the thirteenth century, as he suggests. But apart from this, the local antiquary M. Langevin informs us that there are records of payments for the big tower extending over 1420-2, in which year the Earl of Shrewsbury was governor of Falaise. Mr. Dearmer is fond of mediæval history and legend, and Prof. Freeman would, we imagine, have been not a little pleased to know that such an enthusiastic disciple was following in his footsteps in 'Normandy and Maine.' This devotion to the older strata does not, however, in our opinion, suffice to absolve the author from his complete neglect of Arthur Young, and we must express ourselves aggrieved that we have not been able to find a single reference in the text either to Gustave Flaubert or Guy de Maupassant. In the mind's eye of the well-read pilgrim Rouen and Havre are haunted by the pervasive influence of these two, and a guide-book to Wessex with no mention of Thomas Hardy would seem hardly less complete than a literary sketch of Normandy without a word of Flaubert and Croisset or Maupassant and Miromesnil.

## FRENCH MEMOIRS.

*The Correspondence of "Madame," of Marie-Adélaïde de Savoie, and of Madame de Maintenon.* Selected and translated by Katharine Prescott Wormeley. (Heinemann.)—Our own partiality for "Madame," a racy correspondent and an excellent hater, makes us regret that more space has not been given to her in this interesting collection. A greater contrast could scarcely be found than between the Duc d'Orléans's first wife, the fascinating, yet dissipated Henrietta of England, whose tragic death occurred in 1670, and Elisabeth Charlotte, Princess Palatine, whom he married the following year. Plain in person, intensely German in tastes and habits, Madame united shrewd common sense to an honest, manly nature. In spite of her sympathy for the sufferings of her own country, she was a loyal friend to Louis XIV. and to France. That she could be an inveterate enemy Saint-Simon and Madame de Maintenon, "la vieille guenipe," well knew. Converted to the Catholic Church for the purpose of her marriage, Madame continued through life a devout student of the Bible. When meditating "with bitter pain on all that M. de Louvois had burned up in the Palatinate," she, strong in faith, could console herself with the belief that "he is burning terribly in the other world, for he died so suddenly he had no time to repent." Living in an age distinguished by moral depravity and religious intolerance, she maintained that "we should not ask what people believe, but whether they live in accordance with the Gospel, and the priests should preach against those who live bad lives." Of the latter class she had abundant experience as mother of the Regent and grandmother of the Duchesse de Berry. Yet, with the instincts of a mother-in-law, she ascribed the iniquities of both these relatives to the shortcomings of the Duchesse d'Orléans, whose position as natural daughter of Louis XIV. the German princess never forgave. More merited was the wrath she poured on that "faithless dog" the Abbé Dubois, "who is helping to precipitate my soul to eternal perdition." The details she gives of the Court in which she lived upwards of fifty years justify her statement that its denizens had "but two objects in view, debauchery and lucre: the absorption of their minds on money-getting, no matter by what means [it was the period of Law's ascendancy], makes them dull and disagreeable." Some-

times we catch an echo of the popular distress. In 1709 Madame writes that "the famine is so great night and day we hear of nothing else—children have eaten each other. If one leaves the house one is followed by a crowd of poor creatures who cry famine.....All payments are made in notes; there is no coin anywhere." In the absence of any information on the point, we presume that the letters of Marie-Adélaïde, Duchesse de Bourgogne, are taken from those published by Madame della Rocca. The collection edited by M. A. Gagnière is, we think, better and more recent.

*Memoirs of Cardinal Dubois.* Translated from the French by Ernest Dowson. 2 vols. (Smithers.)—That in matters concerning history falsehood is as good and as acceptable as truth is a creed frequently acted upon; it is not, however, often avowed with the courage evinced by Mr. Dowson. He remarks that "the evidence of recent researches tends rather to regard this work as apocryphal"; that "the Comte de Seillac, in his 'L'Abbé Dubois,' published in 1862, one of the most important works on the life of the cardinal, disregards the 'Memoirs' altogether"; that M. Ch. Aubertin in 1873, "in his 'L'Esprit Public au XVIII<sup>e</sup> Siècle,' concludes that they are probably spurious"; whilst "M. Quérard, in his 'Les Supercheries Littéraires Dévoilées,' 1869, decides" that they were composed by Paul Lacroix, who presented them to the public in 1829. But, "after all," says our translator, "is the question of the authenticity of these memoirs of such importance as to cause the reader.....the embarrassment of an instant's regret? It can scarcely be said that it is. Whether from the pen of Dubois himself or not, they form one of the most interesting and striking documents relating to the times of the Regency, all the amiable characteristics of which they faithfully reflect."

For the words we have italicized should be substituted "all the filthy abominations." Even had the authenticity of the memoirs been above suspicion the claims of decency should have prevented the attempt to popularize such literature. On comparing the translation with the French edition of 1829 we note omissions to the extent of several chapters. Still the most offensive portions remain intact. An "editor's note," vol. i. p. 282, tells us: "It would seem from this passage and several others that Dubois wrote some political memoirs, of which no one appears to be cognizant." When, however, Mr. Dowson reaches vol. ii. p. 45 he seems suddenly to become aware of a "work much esteemed by diplomatists, the 'Correspondence of Cardinal Dubois,' published by M. de Sevelinges"; it "contains proofs of the authenticity of these memoirs." M. de Sevelinges's work appeared in 1815. It is now before us—the exact title is 'Mémoires et Correspondance'—but we should not consider it as corroborative of Lacroix's production, were it necessary for us to enter upon that question.

*The Prince de Ligne: his Memoirs, Letters, and Miscellaneous Papers.* Selected and translated by Katharine Prescott Wormeley. 2 vols. (Heinemann.)—"The present volumes seek to do what has not been done before with the life of the Prince de Ligne. They take his 'Fragmentary Memoirs' and fill its gaps with facts, sketches, letters, and opinions found in his works. Thus the only consecutive history of the prince is here given, and given in his own words." The happy idea is admirably executed. We wish, however, that the lady had given chapter and verse for the extracts she has thus pieced together; for it must be remembered that De Ligne's collected works, numbering thirty-four volumes, present a wonderful medley of camp, court, and literary society. Again, whilst we appreciate the insertion of Sainte-Beuve, and of Madame de Staël's biographical notices of the prince, we must protest against the introduction of gleanings from Lucien Perey's spurious memoirs of Hélène Massalska. De

Ligne is, we admit, always loquacious and often tedious, still he can be excellent company, and whilst he presents us with a vivid sense of his personality, we are inspired with friendliness for one who, under the adverse circumstances which beset his old age, still followed his own injunction:—

"Make a habit of being gay. If you are not so naturally, at least you can drive away melancholy. Shake yourself. Wind up your fibres as you do an instrument; your mind will soon give out a pleasant sound."

His reminiscences of the courts of Louis XV., of Louis XVI., and of Catherine le Grand are familiar to all. Less known, perhaps, is his predilection for London, its

"wide sidewalks.....inconceivable cleanliness, lighted promenades where there are concerts and games and no police, &c. In short, whatever can be imagined for the best planned *fête* is found daily in four or five different quarters of London—an air of freedom and magnificence, elegant phaetons, the whole town on the trot, fine houses, charming women, and excellent fruit. Paris, on the other hand, disgusts the newly arrived stranger with its dirt, the appearance of the people and their villainous manner of dressing, the savage air of the fishwives," &c.

Perhaps, too, now that every one is professing a knowledge of military tactics, the following remarks made by De Ligne in 1788 may prove of interest:—

"I see Turks.....fight with a species of method, scattering widely so that the artillery and the fire of the battalions cannot be directed upon them. They themselves aim marvellously well, firing always at collected objects.....hiding in all the ravines, hollows, and up the trees; or else advancing in small bodies of forty or fifty with a flag, which they run very fast to plant and secure the ground. The first line fires kneeling and goes to the rear to reload; and thus they succeed each other. This they keep up, running forward with their flag and their revolving line."

*Side Lights on the Reign of Terror: being the Memoirs of Mademoiselle des Echerolles.* Translated from the French by Marie Clothilde Balfour. (Lane.)—The chronology in this volume is remarkable. Whilst Mlle. des Echerolles tells us she was eleven years old in 1792, the preface describes her as thirteen at the beginning of the Revolution, and informs us that these memoirs were first published in 1793. Now the most thrilling adventures here recorded are those experienced by the little girl during the siege of Lyons, from August to October, 1793. Moreover, the massacres of Versailles, which took place in 1792, are postdated a year. The book is far too lengthy, but is well translated.

*The Book of the Ladies.* By Pierre de Bourdeille. With Elucidations of some of those Ladies by C. A. Sainte-Beuve. Translated by Katharine Prescott Wormeley. (Heinemann.)—This translation of 'Les Dames Illustres' of Brantôme is recommended by the reproductions of numerous portraits of important personages of the time; and the print—which is American—and the paper are good, so that the volume is attractive. The remarks of Sainte-Beuve should have been placed together in an appendix instead of being scattered through the volume, and many of them might as well have been omitted; for example, those on Mary Queen of Scots, which the researches of the last fifty years have rendered antiquated. It would have been an advantage, too, if the editor had possessed more knowledge of the literature of the period; for instance, she should have noted the recent publication for the first time of much of the poetry of Marguerite de Valois; and she should certainly have consulted the standard edition of Brantôme, that edited for the Société de l'Histoire de France by M. Lalanne some five-and-twenty years ago, of which she has, apparently, never heard. We strongly suspect, but perhaps we do her an injustice, that she has never read the 'Memoirs' of the Reine Margot. The translation is more literal than elegant. Miss Wormeley, for instance, writes: "She it was who built, out of great superabundance," where Brantôme says: "Ce fut

elle qui fit bastir par une grand' superbété." It may be worth while noticing that "à la boulonnoise" has nothing to do with "bouillonée," as Miss Wormeley supposes, but simply means "after the fashion of Bologna." Nor has "gorgiaseté" more than an apparent connexion with gorge. A study of M. Lalanne's notes and glossary would have been of much advantage to her.

*Michel de l'Hospital.* By C. T. Atkinson. (Longmans & Co.)—This is a Lothian prize essay, and it is creditable to the writer; but, after all, to deal with such an intricate period as the history of France in the days when the Valois were making shipwreck requires an historian who has devoted years to the study of the time.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE.

*Notes on a Century of Typography at the University Press, Oxford, 1693-1794.* By Horace Hart. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)—This handsome book is the outcome of a general overhauling of all the old types, matrices, punches, and ornaments hidden away in the storerooms of the Clarendon Press, and must rank as a fresh instance of the energy of Mr. Hart, under whose controllership the Press has greatly advanced in efficiency and reputation. The period which the book covers has been fixed by the fact that the earliest of the eight Specimens issued by the University Press appeared in 1693, and the latest in 1794, and it is by these specimen-books that the present monograph, and the clearing-up process of which it is the outcome, have been made possible. The earlier Specimens, those of 1693, 1695, and 1706, have each of them a title-page reading, "A Specimen of the several sorts of Letter given to the University by Dr. John Fell, late Lord Bishop of Oxford. To which is added the Letter given by Mr. F. Junius"—the gifts of Fell and Junius having raised the Press to a very high degree of efficiency. Fell himself reckoned that between 1672 (the date should apparently rather be 1668) and 1679 the "imprimery" had been "furnisht at the expence of above four thousand pound," this considerable sum having been mostly spent in Holland, where Thomas Marshall, who became Rector of Lincoln in 1672, and was subsequently also Dean of Gloucester, acted as his agent. Marshall was doubtless selected for this business as holding, or having held, the office of Preacher to the English Merchants in Holland. His correspondence with Fell as to the purchase of Dutch founts, which Mr. Hart has printed as an appendix, covers the years 1670-72, while an earlier series of letters which passed in 1668-70 between Fell, Robert Scott (Marshall's London agent), Roycroft, the London printer, and Samuel Clarke, the Architypographer or University printer, shows that the Bishop's efforts on behalf of the Oxford Press began at least as early as 1668. The material for these two appendixes has been found among the Rawlinson Manuscripts at the Bodleian, and the letters illustrate the difficulties which had to be overcome in obtaining the desired types. At this period, and for some years after—in fact until the rise of Caslon—no good founts were being cast in England, and the London printers were as anxious as those of Oxford to make purchases in Holland, not disdaining even to negotiate with drunken workmen in order to obtain the matrices with which the Dutch founders were by no means willing to part. The chief types presented by Fell himself make a very fine appearance in Mr. Hart's book, the rummage in the storerooms having brought to light sufficient matrices to enable the founts to be cast afresh, the few missing letters being supplied by a little ingenuity. As thus recast some of them are already familiar to book-lovers from their use in Mr. Duff's 'Early English Printing' and other antiquarian works. The great

primer italic is nearly as good as italic can ever be, and though the form of the roman letters is not really satisfactory, there is a certain pleasing irregularity in it, which comes as a relief to eyes tired by the machine-like precision of modern types. For a good many of the later founts neither types nor matrices exist in sufficient quantities to avoid the use of process-block reproductions from the old Specimens, and in process-blocks the Clarendon Press is not nearly so successful as in the collotypes and photolithographs which it produces so cheaply and well. The difference between the examples printed from type and those printed from reproductions is thus needlessly great, and forms the only blot on a highly interesting volume.

*Catalogue of the Printed Books and Manuscripts in the John Rylands Library, Manchester.* 3 vols.—*Catalogue of Books in the John Rylands Library, Manchester, printed in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of Books in English printed Abroad to the End of the Year 1640.* (Manchester, Cornish.)—Mr. Gordon Duff, whose knowledge of early English printing is unrivalled, must have exercised great self-restraint in compiling these catalogues of the John Rylands Library, for he has rigidly confined his descriptions to the bare minimum needed to enable readers to identify the book and edition they require, and has resisted a thousand temptations to saunter off into the pleasant paths of bibliography. If all librarians had been equally self-denying, catalogues would have been briefer and more uniform and bibliographies more accurate; for the cataloguer who insists on airing his knowledge has his counterpart in the bibliographer who thinks a catalogue's description quite good enough to be appropriated, and thus the standard of uniformity and exactness is lowered all round. Of course the immediate effect of this self-denial on the part of Mr. Duff is to make his catalogues less interesting to turn over, but the special list of the English books printed up to 1640 offers some compensations, and it may be hoped that time will soon be found to issue a similar one of the foreign specimens of early printing, with the same alternative arrangement of the books under their printers in an appendix. For the rest the catalogue is an excellent piece of work, and, when the promised subject-index takes the edge off the very drastic treatment of anonymous books, will fulfil all the requirements of a reasonable reader. To gather any general view of the contents of the collection from an author-list is not very easy; but it is evident that the Spencer books still overshadow the additions made to them, and more especially in the case of the Greek and Latin classics it is almost amusing to find the long array of editions suddenly stop at about 1820, and no further additions made save here and there a popular translation. When a real attempt is made to grapple with the literature of the nineteenth century it will be interesting to see what line will be taken as regards *belles-lettres*. At present poetry seems permissible, but novels not, save when they creep in under the specious disguise of Collected Works. But the collection, even as it stands, is a fine one, and some pains seem to have been taken to bring the theology up to date.

*Catalogue of the Manuscripts in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin, to which is added a List of the Fagel Collection of Maps in the same Library.* Compiled by T. K. Abbott, Librarian. (Dublin, Hodges, Figgis & Co.)—Dr. Abbott's list of the manuscripts at Trinity College, Dublin, like Mr. Duff's catalogue of the books in the Rylands Library, is intended mainly for the use of students within the walls of the building, and contains all the help necessary to enable a reader to ask for any manuscript in the library of which he has heard, and even to ascertain whether on any definite subject in which he is interested any manuscripts are available. The entries follow each other in no

very precise order; but this matters the less, inasmuch as the contents of old manuscript miscellanies, being often truly miscellaneous, defy any logical system of arrangement. The important point is that the contents of all such miscellanies are severally set forth, though with tantalizing brevity, and that the alphabetical index of authors and subjects is complete and accurate. The Irish manuscripts are kept together, and have a separate index, and also a table of the first lines of poetry. There is moreover, as mentioned on the title-page, a separate list of the Fagel Collection of maps and plans, arranged under the countries to which they relate. Thus as a finding-list this catalogue fulfils every requirement, and it is open to no other objection than that it is a summary catalogue, and not a complete one. In the list of Irish manuscripts the entries are a little fuller, and several of the notes are interesting. For instance, we learn that Teige Dall O'Higgin's satire (c. 1610) on the six O'Haras who forcibly took refreshment in his house induced them to return and cut out his tongue! It would be a pity, also, to lose the note scribbled by an Irish scribe (c. 1408) on the margin of an account of the Ogams: "This is a page I wrote on S. Nicholas' night, and all the school idle except myself, and may God forgive this to me and to the woman who gave me light, i.e. Sheila." But there is one collection catalogued much more fully even than the Irish manuscripts, the volumes, namely, which contain some of the records of the Roman Inquisition. Carried off by Napoleon to Paris, the Inquisition records came back to Rome after his downfall, and for fear they should go travelling again, enough of them were torn up and pulped, in the presence of Monsignor Marini, to sell for 4,300 francs to the paper-makers. But some fifty volumes escaped, and these were bought in 1854 for Trinity College (doubtless with controversial intent), and have duly been made the subject of a monograph by the usual learned German. Their description in this catalogue occupies over forty pages, the names of the accused, the nature of their offence, and the punishment inflicted being set out in full. The collection richly deserves this treatment, but when compared with the very summary entries of important literary manuscripts it seems disproportionate. What students, of course, would desire is fuller and annotated entries, and such a grouping of the index-headings as would enable them to ascertain (without reading the index from A to Z) what manuscripts are in the library dealing with given periods of literature and history. The student of Middle English, for instance, as he turns over the pages of the catalogue, may fairly regret the absence of a note to such entries as "Geoffrey Chaucer, his Chymical Preparations, called his Worke," or "Miracle Play: of the Conversion of Jonathas the Jew by the Miracle of the Blessed Sacrament" (apparently the "Croxtan" 'Play of the Sacrament,' edited by Mr. Whitley Stokes), or "The Miracle Play of Abraham and Isaac," as if only one play on this theme were in existence. When he finds, moreover, that the library possesses numerous manuscripts of works by Rolle and Wyclif, some by Gower and Langland, and one of the earliest English versions of the 'De Imitatione Christi,' he will wish that such entries could be brought together. Starting with Irish manuscripts given or bequeathed by Sir George Carew, who died in 1629, and immensely enriched by the gift (purchased by the officers and soldiers of Cromwell's army in Ireland) of Archbishop Ussher's library, the collection of manuscripts at Trinity College has been growing ever since, and now that this catalogue, begun as early as 1814 by Dr. Mason, has at last got itself into print in a summary form, we may hope that it will speedily be followed by more descriptive class-lists of different sections of its contents.

## THE LANGUAGES OF AFRICA AND NORTH AMERICA.

SOME five years ago the Rev. Charles Roberts published the third edition of 'The Zulu-Kafir Language simplified for Beginners,' which, without superseding existing works, proved a valuable aid to students. The late Bishop Colenso's 'First Steps in Zulu' is an excellent text-book, but the multiplicity of detail tends to embarrass the beginner, and the absence of exercises is, at an early stage, a serious drawback. Such an introduction as Steere's 'Swahili Exercises' supplies to the more elaborate 'Handbook of the Swahili Language' (a discouraging work to embark on without previous knowledge) is greatly to be desired. Mr. Roberts's book, though easy to criticize in detail, will be found very helpful to learners. Two points in particular, apt to prove stumbling-blocks to the novice, we are glad to see dealt with: the use of the relative in composition with the adjective used attributively (as *isibane esikulu*, "a large candle," whereas *isibane isikulu* means "the candle is large"), and the "past-progressive" tenses, *bengitanda*, *ngangitanda*, &c. The *Zulu Manual or Vade-Mecum* (Kegan Paul & Co.), which has just appeared, is a useful little book, issued as a companion or supplement to the earlier volume. Some grammatical points already treated in the latter are here elucidated more fully, and additional examples given. There are sections on 'Colloquial Contractions,' 'Figures of Speech,' 'Diminutive Nouns,' 'Anglo-Zulu, &c., Words,' 'Plurals of Proper Names,' &c.; interesting, though brief notes on 'Zulu Religion,' 'Ukukhulupha Words,' and 'Zulu Poetry' (which, however, is chiefly concerned with translations of hymns, giving only one indigenous production); and special lists of words, such as anatomical terms, names of diseases, and names of plants and animals, &c. It is much to be wished that such words should be recorded as accurately as possible before the wild animals of South Africa have become extinct, or the natives sufficiently civilized to include all living creatures not good to eat under the comprehensive description of *skellum*. The latter part of the book is taken up with an 'English-Zulu Vocabulary,' intended, we presume, to supply omissions in the author's 'English-Zulu Dictionary.' It is to be regretted that a great part of this vocabulary consists of words which either have very obvious synonyms, or do not exist in Zulu and have to be expressed by a paraphrase—not to mention some which can scarcely, by any stretch of language, be called English. "Abduce," "accoil," "bloodshedder," "carneous," "deflagrate," "hyemal" (*sic*), may exist in dictionaries, but are not likely to be met with outside them. Even words which have a recognized status, such as "achromatic," "acridity," "acupuncture," "adipose," "adroit," "adulate" (to take a few from a single column), are out of place in a work like this. It is, of course, necessary to find equivalents for medical and other technical terms; but in nine cases out of ten this can be done without the aid of a special dictionary, by reducing them to their simplest expression; and it is excellent discipline for the learner to be forced to ask himself what he really means by the big words which (especially in theology) are apt to be the sheet-anchor of the vague thinker and loose reasoner. However, the procedure here adopted shows the possibilities of the language, since hundreds even of technical terms can be rendered without importing foreign words. It is inevitable that this last process should go on, and a good many words, such as *ihashi* (horse), *ihansi* (goose), *ukalakuni* (turkey), *istolo* (store), are now thoroughly naturalized (it will be noticed that a number of them are Dutch), but it is as well that it should be kept within due

limits. We have no space for more than one or two remarks on the grammatical portion of the book. It is pleasant to see (p. 1) some notice taken, though no explanation is offered, of the curious fact that the causative form of the verb is sometimes used with an intensive force, or (as here expressed) "implies a development of energy." The same thing may be noticed in Chinyanja, where *mangitsa* = "make to bind," the causative form of *manga*, to bind, is also used in the sense of "bind tightly." Mr. Roberts says that "to express the thought that something has been completely or thoroughly done, the *is* of the causative is doubled," as *geza*, wash, *gezisa*, cause to wash, *gezisisa*, wash thoroughly. But it is not made clear whether this is invariably so, or whether (as we imagine to be the case) the unaltered causative sometimes does duty in this sense. In the section on the use of the verb *ukuti* some elucidation of a very interesting feature of this and other Bantu languages might have been expected. In 'The Zulu-Kafir Language' (p. 27) it is passed over with the remark that "instead of the ordinary verb..... the verb *ukuti* (of very extensive signification) is used in connexion with a particle," and examples are given: *ukuti co*, "to reverberate" (literally, "to say co"), *ukuti cwaka*, "to be perfectly still," &c. A table of interjections is given at the end of the book, but nothing further is said of what may be called the interjectional or descriptive particle, an indeclinable word, which seems to have the force of an adjective or adverb. In Zulu it seldom occurs without the verb *ukuti*; in Chinyanja it either follows the verb (adverb), as *Akala pe*, "he sits quiet," or the copula (adjective), as *Pa tupi paché pa li mbu*, "his body is white," or rounds off and sums up, as it were, the whole sentence. Sometimes, too, we find it used in connexion with the verb *ku-ti*. It is to be noticed that these words are not all expressive of sound. Some denote colour, some motion, some other ideas, as *te* = flat, *njo* = upright. In Yao, says the Rev. A. Hetherwick,

"certain words onomatopoeic in their character may be classed as adverbs. They represent the action or the idea referred to, with or without the descriptive verb; thus, *chum* signifies the sound of falling into water, like an English 'splash.' *Myu*, with the fingers drawn across the lips, or accompanied by a peculiar motion of the hands one over the other, signifies completion..... An idiomatic use of the verb *kuti*, to say, is used in conjunction with such words..... *Ngwo jati pyu*, red cloth (literally, 'the cloth which says *pyu*')."—'Handbook of the Yao Language,' pp. 76-9.

The reference to gesture is significant—many of these words require to be so accompanied, or at least derive their force from the intonations of the voice; there are two or three varieties of *pi* and *bi* which can only be distinguished in this way. They seem to us, speaking with diffidence, to bring one very close to the "ultimate roots" of language. M. Junod, in his 'Grammaire Ronga,' calls them "adverbes descriptifs," and says:—

"Ce sont des vocables, généralement d'une seule syllabe, au moyen desquels les indigènes expriment l'impression soudaine, immédiate, causée sur eux par un spectacle, un son, une idée, ou décrivent un mouvement, une apparence, un bruit."

He goes on to say that numerous verbs owe their origin to these little words, and that some individuals employ them to excess, even inventing new ones: "Néanmoins beaucoup de ces mots sont vraiment incorporés dans le langage, compris par chacun, et il faut chercher à les connaître et les employer." Space will not allow an adequate consideration of the various points suggested by Mr. Roberts's book. We regret to notice that it is disfigured by a number of manifest printer's errors, which might have been expected in the Zulu, but have also invaded the English part.

We have further received from the S.P.C.K. a new and revised edition of the *Luganda Prayer-Book*, noticed some time ago in these columns.

The new edition, which is neat and handy in form, and well printed, contains some additional matter not before translated—part of the Preface, the Athanasian Creed, the Order for the Visitation of the Sick, the Communion and the Ordination Services. The textual differences are chiefly apparent in the Sentences and in the Psalms used in the morning and evening services, where passages from the recognized Luganda translation of the whole Bible have been substituted for the earlier versions made independently for the Prayer-Book.

From the same society we have received a new Xosa hymn-book, which seems to be an improvement on former attempts of the same kind. The compilers admit in the preface the difficulty of finding suitable tunes—a difficulty which, we have no doubt, will remain unsolved till the advent of a native composer, with enough originality to profit by a musical training without becoming enslaved to European methods. We note with satisfaction that a great many of the hymns, original or translated, are signed with native names, and that rhyme has not been thought indispensable; while some of the hymns, especially those in the trochaic metre, can be read without excessive violence to the accentuation of the language.

Chino, or Mashona, is called by Father Torrend a dialect of Karanga (Kalaka), "on the whole, closely related to Senna." It certainly shows more affinity with the Zambesi languages than with Zulu. Comparatively little has been done for it, though the Mashonaland Mission have translated some hymns, prayers, and passages of Scripture. We have before us two little books, *Lumen ad Revelationem Gentium* (a catena of quotations from the New Testament) and *Minamoto ne Zwiymbo yavana we sangano* ('Prayers and Hymns for Church People'), and two large-type sheets containing the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. Other publications of the S.P.C.K. are a Smaller Catechism (pt. i.), Service Book, and first Reading-Book (a small primer of 16 pp.) in Luganda, three tracts in Norwegian, a Confirmation card in Mota (Banks's Islands, Melanesia), and two specimens of North American languages: an *Ojibway Hymn-Book*, edited by the Rev. F. Frost, of Garden Island, Ontario; and *Prayers, Lessons, and Hymns*, in the Tenni or Slavi language, spoken by the Indians of Mackenzie River. This last is printed in the syllabic characters invented, if we mistake not, by the Rev. J. Egerton Young, and used in writing Cree and Chippewyan. An examination of the syllabary prefixed to this little volume shows that it is tolerably simple, and it would appear calculated to lighten the labour of both teacher and pupil. It is, with the exception of Vei, the only instance known to us (apart from various systems of shorthand) of a character deliberately invented by one person. Whether it will ever really take root as a medium of written speech, and, if so, what process of evolution it will go through, can be, for the present, but an interesting speculation. We hear little of Vei, and its survival is, to say the least, doubtful.

*Handbuch des Schilichischen von Tazewalt.* Von Dr. Hans Stumme. (Leipzig, Hinrichs.)—Compared with most other linguistic families the Berber or Libyan group of Northern Africa have received but little attention from scholars, and an addition to our knowledge of any of these languages cannot fail to be welcome to philologists. There are in the Moorish empire three groups of Berbers, namely, the Rifians in the north, the Berbers proper in the centre, and the Shluhs in the south. They speak distinct dialects, which differ from one another to about the same extent as do the various Romance languages; and each of these in turn is parent to many subordinate dialects. The work before us deals with the dialect spoken by the Shluhs of Tazewalt, a district situated south of Agadir,

with its capital Hegh. For their poetical compositions the Moroccan Shluhs employ a sort of *κονί διαλέκτος*, on which Dr. Stumme in 1895 published a monograph, entitled 'Dichtkunst und Gedichte der Schlüh.' For his material in writing the present grammar he is apparently indebted to the head of a troupe of acrobats, temporarily resident in Berlin, hailing from the Taserwalt district. This "Akrobatendirektor" possesses, we are told, a "perfectly fluent" knowledge of German, and this is not the first occasion on which he has aided Dr. Stumme in his linguistic studies. To what extent the authority of one native is to be relied upon it is impossible for us to judge, but in any case the author has been able to collect sufficient material on which to base a most minute and exhaustive grammar. A series of ordinary dialogues occupies twenty pages, and at the end of the volume is a large glossary, which is perhaps the most useful and interesting portion of the work. A glance at the grammar is sufficient to impress one with the difficulty of this dialect, and the complexity of its nominal and verbal formations; the vocabulary contains a large percentage of Arabic loan-words, for the most part much mutilated and distorted in the borrowing. Dr. Stumme expresses a hope that the study of the Berber languages, which stand in such close relationship to the Semitic group, will become more general, and he further tells us that he has already during two terms been lecturing on the Berber dialects in the Leipzig University.

#### SHORT STORIES.

*A Diplomatic Woman.* By Huan Mee. (Sands & Co.)—The pseudonym adopted on the title-page of 'A Diplomatic Woman' probably conceals a brace of authors. On the cover is depicted a woman, and it is as ugly a decoration as anything in book-covers we have lately seen—and that says much. Six stories within tell of six different adventures in which this singularly plain Parisienne is involved. She is supposed to be a reigning beauty and to be in the confidence, if not in the pay, of premiers, ministers, attachés, and such-like persons. The episodes are recounted in the first person, and the tone and manner are unfortunately not calculated to give the wished-for impression of elegance and distinction. French quotations and expressions are numerous, but many of these are more incorrect or less well applied than should be the case in high diplomatic circles. The intrigues are now and then ingenious, but entirely charmless always.

Bad characters abound in the volume entitled *The Naked Truth, and other Stories*, by Andrew Merry (New Century Press), and leave a distinctly disagreeable taste behind them. There are five of these stories, and they are clever and suggestive of careful study of the best French models of the day. It is not easy to avoid the impression that sombre subjects are more suited to the writer's pen than those of cheerful characteristics. The first one, which gives its name to the collection, describes a married woman and her lovers, one of whom cannot understand why there should be others besides himself, and he cannot see that he is neither the first nor the last. He neglects his wife and drinks. No doubt there are many such men and women, and their story is not new to fiction. However, it bears retelling, and it is well told. The rest are not unlike the first piece in subject and treatment. They describe the lives of those who dwell in cities, especially the more unhappy of them. Perhaps the writer would be equally clever in describing happier things; and if so, some such feature would hardly be out of place, if only by way of contrast.

#### GENEALOGICAL LITERATURE.

*Nottingham Parish Registers: Marriages.* 2 vols. Edited by W. P. W. Phillimore and James Ward. (Phillimore & Co.)—These two

volumes contain the marriages at the important central church of St. Mary's, Nottingham, from 1566 to 1813, when Rose's Act came into force. The old parish of St. Mary's included the whole of the ancient borough, with the exception of the two small parishes of St. Peter and St. Nicholas, near the centre of the town. These registers are of special importance and interest to the genealogist and to the local historian. This arises from two circumstances. Many of the county folk had their town residences within St. Mary's parish rather than in London, and the central position of Nottingham and the great extent of this parish rendered it a desirable place for clandestine marriages, of which there are not a few. The two volumes contain about twenty thousand weddings: they are copied from thirteen separate register books. Among the people of position and interest married in this church may be mentioned Charles Cotton, Esq., of Beresford, and Isabella, daughter of Lady Hutchinson, of this parish, who were united by Alderman Toplady on June 30th, 1656; also the Hon. George Byron, Esq., of St. Peter's, and Miss Frances Levett, of this parish, who were married by licence on October 26th, 1755. During the latter half of the last century troops were generally quartered at Nottingham, and it is not surprising to find that there were often marriages with the soldiers. The regiment is usually named in the registers. Between 1755 and 1760 Lord Robert Manners's Regiment of Foot, Col. Cornwallis's Regiment of Foot, Sir Charles Howard's Regiment of Dragoon Guards, Col. Kingsley's Regiment of Foot, General Stewart's Regiment of Foot, Col. Colvill's Regiment, Lord Frederick Cavendish's Regiment of Foot, and "ye Royal English Fusiliers" are all mentioned as quartered in the town. These volumes are clearly printed, and seem to be most carefully copied, but there is one very serious drawback. It is stated in the preface that no index is issued with these transcripts, because "the editors believe it to be better to print as many registers as possible, and to defer index-making until the registers still in manuscript are placed beyond the risk of loss." If the object of the editors is to make these volumes useful, they certainly ought to be issued with an index. If antiquaries are to wait for an index until the registers are all copied, either in the county or in the whole country, the present generation will be in their graves long before the index comes out!

*The Register of Fitz.*—The Shropshire Parish Register Society (secretary Miss Leighton, Sweeney Hall, Oswestry), which was founded in 1898, has already done very good work. The transcript of the registers of Fitz, which will form part of the fourth volume, covers 124 pages, including brief introduction and good index. It is edited by Mrs. Parry, the wife of the rector of Fitz, and seems to be well done, though we think it is a mistake to attempt to give in the introduction to mere registers any general account of the church. The first register begins in 1559; up to 1609 it is a copy on parchment of the old paper book. These are a few interesting points:—

"1646, July 7. Alice d. of Richard Ferington and Amias bap. This Alice was the first that ever was baptized in Fitz Church without the signe of the Crosse, at the instance and earnest desyer of him, that is of Richard, was the signe of the Crosse omitted."

"1657, Jan. 17. William s. of William Hordley and Margaret. This child was baptized in the Church of Fitz by Mr. Parsons, rector of Wemm, after the new Presbiterian way, according to the Directorie, in a Basin of water by the Pulpit."

From 1732 to 1746 the names of the god-parents, here called "sureties," are given with each baptism; this is a most unusual feature in church registers. In the first register book is inserted a terrier of the rectory for the year 1722. Some of the customary payments to the parson are curious:—

"For every Cow one penny and for every Calf one halfpenny. For a Dove Coat four pence. Every Sow that Piggs seaven Pigs or upward, one is due for Tithe. For a Colt four pence. For every Tenement one penny for Garden, and one penny for Smooke. For every Hive of Bees put down one Penny."

The burials of two centenarians are recorded, namely, William Pale, in 1634, aged 100, and George Gostilow, in 1711, aged 102.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT publish *Stable Management and Exercise: a Book for Horse-owners and Students*, by Capt. Horace Hayes. It is a complete work, which gives everything which is necessary for the head coachman or for the owner who supervises his own stables. No one is so competent as Capt. Hayes to write on such a subject, and, as our readers know, he writes well. The general public will be somewhat interested in his notes on commissions and "tips." It appears that in all continental countries there is a universal and perfectly recognized stable commission of 10 per cent. on everything, but that in this country stable commissions, although almost universal, vary in amount. Capt. Hayes puts them at 5 per cent. on all forage, harness, saddlery, clothing, and tools, and at 1s. on each shoeing. He states that the ordinary commission recognized by dealers on purchase of a horse is two guineas; but that, of course, presents are given of 10l. or 20l. to stimulate interest; 10 per cent. on the bills of veterinary surgeons is not uncommon, and 5 per cent. "very reasonable." Capt. Hayes does not defend the commission system. In fact, he points out that it renders servants slack, if not culpably careless as to the quality and quantity of articles supplied, and inclines them to discourage the employment of necessities from which they obtain less or no profit. But he adds that the stable commission system is so firmly established that a master must, unless he is virtually his own head man, "accept things as they are."

MR. J. W. ARROWSMITH publishes, with Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. as London agents, *People You Know: being Intimate Portraits of some of the Men and Women of To-day*, edited by Percy A. Hurd. The collection seems to be from various pens, and to have appeared in the *Outlook*. The article on Lord Salisbury, which stands first, does not strike us as good; and in its praise of the Prime Minister's "knowledge" and "perspicuity" picks out points for approval as to which there is much doubt and dispute, especially in face of Lord Salisbury's recent speeches on military matters, and particularly on the comparative advantages of rifle clubs and of a navy. Neither can we entirely endorse the article on Mr. Rhodes, in which we are informed that "the electorate has sealed the works and ways of Mr. Rhodes with its approval," that he is as esteemed by Radicals as by Conservatives, and that "in any really 'open' public meeting the mention of Mr. Rhodes is certain to evoke hearty cheers." Mr. Rhodes is also credited with "the chief part in the extension of the British Empire by an area as big as all the States of Europe, save Russia," the allusion evidently being to the territory south of the Zambesi, the chief part in adding which to the British Empire may be said to have been played either by the late Mr. W. E. Forster, or by Mr. Chamberlain, or by the late Rev. John Mackenzie, but hardly by Mr. Rhodes. Sir Charles Warren's Bechuanaland expedition, which came at the turning-point, had, as is now well known, the opposition, not the support, of Mr. Rhodes. The article on Sir William Harcourt is remarkably good, as are several of the others in the volume, which is readable throughout.

MR. R. W. CHAMBERS appropriately describes his clever sketch of literary and Bohemian

society in New York as "an outline." Its title is *Outsiders* (Grant Richards), and it is both interesting and graphic. To a majority of readers it will probably appear to be written in stilted and artificial phraseology. The first few chapters unquestionably suggest this comment. But the peculiar mannerism is well suited to the subject and to the persons described, and the result must be characterized as successful in a literary sense. The dialogue is often amusing and even brilliant, and it forms an agreeable contrast to much of the narrative, which seems to be designed on strictly impressionist lines. It will be evident that the book is a contrast to several other works by the same hand, such as 'The Cambric Mask' and 'Ashes of Empire,' and that it is one which taxes skill in composition beyond any of its predecessors. Subjects and scenes which are in any way "risky," and which are necessarily found in any sketch of so-called Bohemian society, are handled with much discretion. The book is a story of nearly contemporary life in New York, and should take a prominent place in current fiction at a moment when good fiction is scarce.

*A Treasury of Canadian Verse.* Selected and edited by Theodore H. Rand, D.C.L. (Dent & Co.)—Specimens of the works of 135 writers are included in this anthology of Anglo-Canadian verse. All, or nearly all of them, are, roughly speaking, contemporary. Even then the tale is not complete, for Dr. Rand has to lament his failure to secure permission to print any of the work—understood to be meritorious—of Mr. William Wilfred Campbell. The most literary of lands could not produce 135 really great poets in the course of any one century, and Canada has not done so. Nine-tenths of Dr. Rand's volume is made up of magazine verse, trivial, uninspired, and derivative, as magazine verse is wont in all countries to be. The one authentic poet who stands head and shoulders above the crowd is Mr. Bliss Carman. Mr. Carman has a vision and an utterance which are at once delightful and his own, and he has done even better things than here appear. Amongst his fellows we venture to indicate as somewhat above the average Mr. John Hunter Duvar, Miss E. Pauline Johnson, Mr. Archibald Lampman, Mrs. Kate Seymour Maclean, Mr. James McCarroll, Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts, Mr. Theodore Roberts, and Mr. Duncan C. Scott. There may be others, but these take the fancy most on looking through the volume. It must be observed that many of Dr. Rand's contributors were not born in Canada, and that many, although born there, wrote elsewhere. This, and the fact that poetry is essentially one of the most cosmopolitan of the arts, perhaps explain the absence of anything to be called very distinctively "Canadian" about the collection. Most of the pieces might, for any "local signs" they bear, come just as well from England or the United States. Still there are some touches here and there of Canadian-French associations. There are some hints, notably in the poems of Mr. C. G. D. Roberts, of a growing Canadian national consciousness. There are, of course, the exotic fauna and flora of North America, the maple and the bobolink. And still more, there is a certain feeling for space and emptiness, in great masses of wind-swept sky and rolling plain, which suggests the untamed landscapes of a sparsely inhabited dominion.

*The Atherstone Bequest,* by Mrs. C. E. Terrot (Burleigh), is a book for girls of the quiet, domestic order. It is not fraught with any legal complications, as might be inferred from the title. There are three types of girlhood figured forth in the story, and though they are not very interesting they are carefully drawn and have real enough touches. Average human nature is throughout portrayed, and the author does not appear to be gifted with imagination or the beginning of a style.

*David Polmere,* by Mrs. Lodge (Digby, Long & Co.), suggests but one remark: the writing is almost as bad as the binding, and that is saying much.

TASTEFUL reprints of the *Areopagitica* and *Tully's Offices* in L'Estrange's version have been added by Messrs. Dent to their "Temple Classics."

WE have on our table *The Insurance Register*, 1900 (C. & E. Layton),—*World Politics*, by Paul S. Reinsch (Macmillan),—*Report of the Librarian of Congress, 1899* (Washington, Government Printing Office),—*Introduction to Zoology*, by C. B. Davenport and G. C. Davenport (Macmillan),—*First Stage Botany*, by A. J. Ewart (Clive),—*Old English Churches*, by George Clinch (Upcott Gill),—*Natural Economy: an Introduction to Political Economy*, by A. H. Gibson (Birmingham, Cornish Brothers),—*Classification and Uses of Finger Prints*, by E. R. Henry (Routledge),—*For Britain's Soldiers*, by W. L. Alden and others (Methuen),—*The Mystic Number Seven*, by A. Gray (Simpkin),—*An American Venus*, by E. Preston, M.D. (Drane),—*The White Flower*, by C. R. Fenn (Digby & Long),—*The Banker and the Bear*, by H. K. Webster (Macmillan),—*Our Cove*, by J. H. Harris (Truro, Pollard),—*Between Two Fires*, by Harry Golding (Ward & Lock),—*Rhymes from the Book*, by M. O. W. (Simpkin),—*Passing Thoughts*, by Mrs. S. Buss (Stock),—*Christianity and Mythology*, by John M. Robertson (Watts & Co.),—*Portions of the Book of Common Prayer, together with Hymns and Addresses, in Eskimo*, translated by the Rev. E. J. Peck, compiled by the Rev. W. G. Walton (S.P.C.K.),—*Cathedral and University Sermons*, by George Salmon, D.D. (Murray),—*The Christ of Cynewulf, a Poem in Three Parts, the Advent, the Ascension, and the Last Judgment*, translated into English prose by C. H. Whitman (Arnold),—*Spiritual Sacrifice and Holy Communion, Sermons*, by the late T. L. Kingsbury (Cambridge, Macmillan & Bowes),—*The Acts of the Apostles*, translated into the language of the Ojibbeway Indians by the Bishop of Moosonee and the Rev. J. Sanders (S.P.C.K.),—*Religion and Reason*, by Truth-Seeker (Watts & Co.),—*Lohnpolitik und Lohntheorie*, by Dr. Otto von Zwiedineck-Südenhorst (Leipzig, Duncker & Humblot),—*La Malaria*, by B. Grassi (Milan, Treves),—*Q. Horatius Flaccus, Auswahl*, by Dr. M. Petschenig (Williams & Norgate),—*and Problèmes de Philosophie Positive*, by Guillaume de Greef (Paris, Reinwald). Among New Editions we have *Rambles and Studies in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Dalmatia*, by R. Munro, M.D. (Blackwood),—*The Law relating to the Remuneration of Commission Agents*, by W. Evans and W. de Bracy Herbert (Cox),—*An Elementary Treatise on Hydrodynamics and Sound*, by A. B. Basset (Cambridge, Deighton & Bell),—*The Theory of International Trade*, by C. F. Bastable (Macmillan),—*The Philosophy of Voice*, by C. Lunn (Baillière, Tindall & Cox),—*The Dewy Morn*, by R. Jefferies (Macmillan),—and *Marryat's The Pirate and The Three Cutters* (Macmillan).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Chambers (Rev. A.), *Man and the Spiritual World*, as disclosed by the Bible, cr. 8vo. 3/6 net.

## Political Economy.

Gillman (N. P.), *Profit Sharing between Employer and Employee*, cr. 8vo. 7/6; *Socialism and the American Spirit*, cr. 8vo. 6/6.

## History and Biography.

Lang (A.), *Prince Charles Edward Stuart*, illustrated, roy. 4to. 63/ net.

## Geography and Travel.

Jones (M. C.), *European Travel for Women*, Notes and Suggestions, 12mo. 4/6.

Porvis (J. B.), *Handbook to British East Africa and Uganda*, cr. 8vo. 2/6.

Walton (J.), *China and the Present Crisis*, with Notes on a Visit to Japan and Korea, cr. 8vo. 6/.

## Philology.

Cicero, *Letters of*, in Chronological Order, translated by E. S. Shackburgh: Vol. 3, B.C. 48-44, cr. 8vo. 5/.

Langhans (J.), *The German Empire and its Evolution under the Reign of the Hohenzollern*, a German Historical Reader, cr. 8vo. 2/6.

Public School Word-Book, edited by J. S. Farmer, 21/ net.

## Science.

Lewes (V. B.), *Acetylene, a Handbook for the Student and Manufacturer*, 8vo. 31/6 net.

Minchin (G. M.), *The Students' Dynamics*, comprising Statics and Kinetics, cr. 8vo. 3/6.

Shenstone (W. A.), *Elements of Inorganic Chemistry for use in Schools and Colleges*, cr. 8vo. 4/6.

Sothorn (J. W.), *Verbal Notes and Sketches for Marine Engineers*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 net.

Williams (T.), *Life of Sir J. N. Douglass*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.

## General Literature.

Aflalo (F. G.), *A Walk through the Zoological Gardens*, 3/6.

Anstruther (E.), *The Influence of Mars*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.

Herrick (R.), *The Web of Life*, cr. 8vo. 6/.

Oxenham (J.), *A Princeps of Vascovy, a Romance*, 6/.

Thomas (C. H.), *Origin of the Anglo-Boer War Revealed*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.

## FOREIGN.

## Theology.

Bernfeld (S.), *Der Talmud*, 1m. 20.

Conrady (L.), *Die Quelle der kanonischen Geschichte Jesus*, 8m.

Ereunes (E.), *Religion Universelle*, 2fr.

## Poetry and the Drama.

Rathier (M.), *Les Tragédies de Sophocle traduites*, 10fr.

## Philosophy.

Domanaki (B.), *Die Psychologie des Nemesius*, 6m.

Schwarz (H.), *Psychologie des Willens*, 6m.

## History and Biography.

Analecta Argentinae, Akten u. Regesten zur Geschichte des Bist. Strassburg im XIV. Jahrh., 1316-34, Vol. 1, 20m.

Gelder (H. van), *Geschiede der alten Rhodier*, 10m.

Goujon (A.), *Les Présidents de la R.-publique, 1870-1900*, 5fr.

Lipinska (M.), *Histoire des Femmes Médecins*, 10fr.

Saint-Léger (A. de), *La Flandre Maritime, Duncker sous la Domination Française, 1659-1789*, 7fr. 50.

## Geography and Travel.

Madrolle (C.), *Hai-nan*, 10fr.

Scyllacius, *De Insulis Meridiani atque Indici Maris nuper Inventis*, 20m.

## Science.

Curé (J.), *Les Jardiniers de Paris*, 5fr.

Hartmann (A.), *Atlas der Anatomie der Stirnhöhle*, 16m.

Ronna (A.), *Rothamsted*, 10fr.

Schou (R.), *L'Agriculture en Danemark*, 18fr.

Wernicke (O.), *Atlas des Gehirns*, Part 2, 100m.

## General Literature.

Brisson (J.), *Mélanges Politiques et Littéraires*, 3fr. 50.

Claretie (J.), *La Vie à Paris*, 3fr. 50.

Pelloutier (F. et M.), *La Vie Ouvrière en France*, 5fr.

## THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE PRESS AT PARIS.

Paris, August 6, 1900.

WE shall not easily divest our minds of the strange impression left by the Seventh Congress of the Press of the World, held last week at Paris. Our "Parliament of Men" was held in the Palace of Peace and Progress; yet over us hung the dark cloud of "battle, murder, and sudden death," which even while we mustered to our Congress broke in threefold force upon our deliberations. The news of the assassination of King Humbert, of the sad and untimely death of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and of the attempt on the life of the Shah (whom but the day before we had acclaimed from the Pavillon de la Presse), startled us each morning as we took our places in the hall of meeting, and gave an extraordinary sense of unreality to the list of subjects which we had been prepared to debate with so much seriousness. Although political references are strictly prohibited from finding a place on our agenda, the struggle in South Africa, the fate of Pekin, were heavy upon the souls of many of us; indeed, few could have taken their places in our assembly at such a moment without asking themselves how far they realized the responsibility which was theirs, of guiding public opinion through dark and slippery places; how far that responsibility would bring out whatever was courageous, unprejudiced, and most true in themselves in that personal contact of minds which is the chief value of a congress.

Those who have followed the patient labours of past congresses will recognize that some slow, but important progress is being made by means of reports, which, while they take months of careful preparation and minute consideration

on the part of experts, are too often thrown aside after a hurried reading and superficial criticism. Nevertheless, an immense amount of valuable information on press subjects is being accumulated, rules and precedents are emerging from a chaos of pamphlets in all languages; by-and-by we shall find that we have, almost without knowing it, achieved a library of reference on technical subjects which will be of incalculable assistance to the journalism of the future. Among the contributions to this collection which strike me as most comprehensive and trustworthy, I may mention Dr. Osterrieth's (Berlin) clever report on 'International Press Laws'; the report of M. Jean Bernard (Brussels and Paris) on the projected 'Ecole du Journalisme', a scheme which alternately attracts and repels the British Institute of Journalists; the report of M. Georges Maillard on the 'Protection of Artistic Property'; the report of M. Tannay (Paris) on the 'Carte d'Identité' as a means of assisting and recognizing members of federated press associations travelling in foreign countries.

In this connexion M. Tannay read as commentary Mr. F. Dolman's (London) able paper on 'Advantages of Association,' which takes a wide and generous view of a matter which we are sometimes apt to regard with insular distrust. A very well-written essay on 'Ideals in Journalism' by Mr. Campion (Northampton) came as literary refreshment and a fresh breath of air after the somewhat tedious technicalities of debate on details which must inevitably, in a congress of 400 members, be referred to a working committee for amendment. I must not omit to mention that a Japanese editor of the *Chunco Shimbun* (Central News) of Tokio presented an excellent statement of journalistic enterprise in his native country, where daily papers are rapidly increasing.

But without doubt the most interesting and most suggestive paper of the Congress was the report of M. Jacquemaire (Paris) on the 'Constitution d'un Tribunal International d'Arbitres.' If such a tribunal for the redressing of journalistic grievances, public and private, could come into practical working order on the lines of the reporter's scheme, it would alone justify all the labours of our seven Congresses. The idea, shortly stated, is that in the event of a difference between correspondent and editor, proprietor and editor, or in a case of libel or outside attack, two members of the International Central Committee should be chosen, each representing a side, and a third added, with the consent of both, to judge the matter, to assess damages, or impose any retraction they considered necessary. With certain modifications this project of M. Jacquemaire's might be made of world-wide usefulness; the bare suggestion that such an office came within the sphere of our associated press organizations is a step of international importance, and a real advance in mutual understanding.

A few words about the construction and the workings of the Congress. I do not consider that in these particulars the Congress of Paris has improved on its predecessors. Indeed, it has fallen behind many of them. The fact that the acknowledged language of the meeting is French leaves the Germans, Scandinavians, English, and Hungarians—a powerful and intelligent contingent—at a disadvantage. Even with a considerable knowledge of French for speaking and working purposes, a special facility for what old-fashioned people call "the uptake" is needed by any foreigner who wishes to enter into argument with the Latin races. Unless more effective arrangement for immediate translation and a more formal adherence to recognized methods of debate are adhered to in future, our Congress discussions will degenerate into expressions of French opinion, and of French opinion only, which, brilliant as it may be from an oratorical point of view, is not satisfying to other nations.

Also I would submit that the constant change of presidency during the six sittings of the Congress is a decided source of weakness, without any accompanying advantage. This rotatory chairmanship, which gives each of the countries control in turn through its representative, was originally intended as an international compliment. As such it has had its day, and if the audience is to be kept well in hand and solidified into a power of usefulness a permanent president, with perhaps a vice for occasional work, will be found more efficient.

The magnificent programme of fêtes which was prepared for our entertainment was necessarily upset by the Italian tragedy of July 29th, which put a stop to all Government and municipal festivity; our reception in the amphitheatre of the Sorbonne lacked the presence and ceremonial welcome of President Loubet; the ball at the Hôtel de Ville and the garden party at the Élysées were alike postponed. It is rumoured that they will, with the Paris press banquet, come off this week; meanwhile a great deal of private enthusiasm in providing relaxations for the members of the Congress has exercised French ingenuity, and shown us French resourcefulness in its best light.

The English delegation was able, through its President, Mr. P. W. Clayden, to offer to the assembly the invitation of the Lord Provost and Municipality of Glasgow to hold next year's congress in the second city of the British Isles. Two other invitations are, I understand, before the Central Committee, one of which to America would scarcely be feasible, and the general interest evinced in the hospitable Scotch invitation points to its being probably accepted.

The Congress closed its sittings on Saturday, August 4th, and the big lecture hall in the Pavillon de la Presse suddenly emptied of all its familiar faces and polyglot voices. There was a broad band of crape across the trophy of flags of all nations behind the President's chair; it reminded us not only of the tragedy of Monza, but of our recently lost and ever to be regretted friend and colleague E. Torelli-Viollier, of whose supporting dignity and sympathy the Seventh Congress of the Press has keenly felt the need. May his spirit, as well as his memory, be with us in our future meetings!

G. B. STUART.

#### SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold on Monday, the 30th ult., and three following days (the last book sale of the season), the Fulford Hall library, the property of Lieut. R. Johnstone, and other properties, amongst which occurred the following: *Berichte der deutschen chemischen Gesellschaft zu Berlin, 1872-1900, 13l. 10s.* Chemical Society of London, *Journal and Proceedings, 1843-1900, 49l.* Chemical News, 1863-93, 8l. 2s. 6d. British Association Reports, 70 vols., 7l. Shaw's *History of Staffordshire, 2 vols., 1798-1801, 14l.* Bacon, *De Dignitate et Augmentis Scientiarum and Instauratione Magna, first edition, 1623-20, 13l.* Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum and History of St. Paul's, 9 vols., 1817-30, 18l. 10s.* Alken's *Flowers from Nature, &c., 1824, 5l. 12s. 6d.* Tigon's *Book of Drawings, 1693, 20l. 5s.* A. Dürer, *Epitome in Divis Parthenices Mariæ Historiam, 1511, 14l. 15s.* Ploos van Amstel, *Imitations des Maitres Hollandais, &c., 1821, 8l. 5s.* Hogarth's *Engravings (82), mostly first states, 13l.* Malton's *Views of Dublin, coloured, 1792-97, 11l. 5s.* Richardson's *Pamela, first edition, 1741, 21l.* Manning and Bray's *Surrey, 15l. 5s.* E. B. Browning, *Prometheus Bound, first edition, 1833, 14l.* Goldsmith's *Vicar of Wakefield, Rowlandson's plates, 1817, 7l. 12s. 6d.* Swinburne's *Songs of the Springtides, 1880, 5l. 12s. 6d.* Mary Stuart, 1881, 5l. 15s.; *Tristram of Lyonesse, 1882, 5l. 17s. 6d.* Century of *Roundels, 1883, 6l. 2s. 6d.* Marino Faliero,

1885, 5l. 17s. 6d.; *Loocrine, 1887, 6l.*; *Study of Ben Jonson, 1889, 6l. 2s. 6d.*; and *Tale of Balen, 1896, 5l. 17s. 6d.*, all presented to the late Dr. Grosart.

#### THE IRISH LANGUAGE IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

THE debate raised in the House by the National (?) members as to the teaching of Irish in the elementary Irish schools was all a "flash in the pan." Your correspondent is one of the original members of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language, and it would interest him to know what aid we ever got from these Nationalists who are now so zealous. How many of them, even those born in the Irish-speaking spots, now know a word of Irish—except, perhaps, to curse in it? The "Boss," what does he know? But then what claim has he to call himself an Irishman? Possibly he was born in Ireland; but there is the old saying, "A donkey born in a stable is not a horse."

The Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language are not such lunatics as to try and reinstate it, as in the majority of the counties it has died out in the last fifty years. Sixty years ago, in the barony of Lower Ormond, co. Tipperary, all the commonalties and most of the gentry were more or less familiar with Irish. How many in the barony know it at the present day, except a few toothless old men and women? The same thing can be said more or less for every county in Ireland, Irish only being spoken in spots, principally in the hill districts. How sensible it would be nowadays to start Irish in the Tipperary and Limerick schools, although fifty years ago it was generally understood, if not spoken!

G. HENRY KINAHAN.

P.S.—It is a pity the *Athenæum* spoilt its paragraph by the last sentence. The "private society in London" is doing more harm than good. It is on a par with the Irish Nationalists. What is the value of publications that adopt "pigeon Irish"? Besides, the statement about the publications is absurd. The writer of it should consult the publications of the Royal Irish Academy.

#### 'ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND.'

It will seem at first sight perfectly absurd to suggest that so recently published a book as Lewis Carroll's famous story 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' should be the subject of bibliographical confusion; yet this is so. For the past seven years the second issue (with the date 1866) has been sold at auction and catalogued by booksellers as the first edition, and no one seems to have discovered the error, or, at all events, to have corrected it. The story of the first issue of this little classic is briefly told by Mr. Collingwood in his 'Life and Letters of C. L. Dodgson' (p. 104). He there says:—

"The first edition consisted of 2,000 copies, and was condemned by both author and illustrator, for the pictures did not come out well. All purchasers were accordingly asked to return their copies, and to send their names and addresses; a new edition was prepared and distributed to those who had sent back their old copies, which the author gave away to various homes and hospitals."

The first or recalled edition was printed at Oxford, and the date is indicated by the fact that on July 4th, 1865, "Miss Alice Liddell received the first presentation copy of 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.'" The two points, therefore, about the first issue, which I have not seen, are: (1) that its date is 1865, and (2) that it was printed at Oxford, Messrs. Macmillan & Co. being, I presume, the publishers.

The second issue—it can hardly be termed edition, inasmuch as the first was withdrawn from circulation—bears the date of 1866, and was printed in London by Richard Clay & Sons. But, although dated 1866, it was published in the autumn of 1865; the copy in the British

Museum is stamped "14 Nov. 65"; it is advertised in the *Athenæum*, November 4th, 1865, as "this day is published"; a notice appeared in this journal on December 16th (p. 844), and other reviews were published in the *Times* and the *London Review* at about the same time. A full account of the succeeding impressions will be found in Messrs. Macmillan & Co.'s 'Bibliographical Catalogue' (pp. 130-1), no fewer than thirty-five issues having been made from 1865 to 1889.

Of the genuine first issue I have only been able to trace four copies as having occurred for sale during the last twelve years. Two of these are mentioned in 'Book-Prices Current': (1) a "used" copy realized twelve guineas at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's early in 1889; and (2) a copy was sold at Messrs. Sotheby's in June, 1889, for 10*l*. With the latter copy there were inserted a letter from Tenniel to Dalziel, a memorandum from Mr. C. L. Dodgson in regard to 'Rhyme and Reason,' and a long communication relating to 'Alice in Wonderland.' There were two copies in Mr. Dodgson's sale at Oxford on May 11th, 1898 (auctioneer, Mr. E. J. Brooks); both these were bound in vellum, and one (lot 680) had on the fly-leaf a short poem of twelve lines to "M. A. B." in MS. by the author; this realized 50*l*., the second (lot 681) realized 24*l*.

The second issue is a comparatively common book, several copies occurring for sale every season, and realizing about 9*l*. or 10*l*. The author's own copy of this issue, with initials "C. L. D." and a page of corrections, realized as much as 18*l*. at his sale. I fear that this note will have the effect of sending down the value of the spurious first edition of 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland,' but *veritas prævalet*.

W. ROBERTS.

### Literary Gossip.

MR. MURRAY is going to bring out a new magazine called the *Monthly Review*. His prospectus modestly disclaims "pushfulness" or promises. The regular publication of a serial novel, of original poetry, and of criticism on current literature, will form a feature of the new periodical; but it will be illustrated, and it will contain a new feature in the shape of a permanent editorial department. The illustrations will be of the best quality obtainable in each case, but they will occupy a secondary position in that they will be held subservient to the text, and will not be included in every article, or merely because of their artistic merits. The editorial department will contain each month articles on topics of current interest, and will be under the direct and effective control of the editor, Mr. Newbolt, the author of 'Admirals All.' By this means, without formulating a policy, Mr. Newbolt hopes to obtain consistency of principle and a personal element in one part of the *Review*, while the remainder will express, as is usually the case nowadays, the views of writers of various shades of opinion. The editorial articles will, of course, be unsigned. Large readable type has been freshly cast for the purpose; and wide margins, stitched instead of wired binding, and an antique wove paper are promised. Where fine line illustrations occur in the text the use of a smooth paper is a necessity, but both for these cases and for separate illustrations care has been taken to choose one which is not shiny as well as smooth. Only in those cases where half-tone illustrations require to be

inserted in the text has a shiny paper been found unavoidable.

THE first appearance of the *Monthly Review*—by the way, the title is a revival of one famous in the last century—will take place on Wednesday, September 19th, but subsequent numbers will be issued on the 25th of each month.

MR. J. C. HARE is going to publish through Mr. George Allen the three remaining volumes of his 'Story of my Life.' They will complete the work. It will be within the memory of our readers how much heartburning was caused by the first instalment of this singular autobiography.

A NEW book by Dr. Weir Mitchell, who has become a popular author in this country, entitled 'The Autobiography of a Quack,' will be issued by Mr. Fisher Unwin in the autumn season. The quack's story deals with his frauds, adventures, and general experiences.

THE principal feature of the auction season just closed lies, so far as books are concerned, in the extraordinary number of original editions of English classics of the last century that appeared in the various sale-rooms. Early editions of old English plays were also sold in unusual numbers. *Apocryphos* of the reference to certain early works of Mr. Rudyard Kipling which appeared in last week's *Athenæum*, it may be stated that another gold mine appears to be under very grave suspicion. This consists of the Davos Platz brochures, which, for some reason or other, used to bring extraordinary prices. Not many of these airy trifles have been seen in the market lately, but the few that appeared did woefully. Thus, 'Not I, and other Poems,' has dropped from about 19*l*. to 6*l*.; 'Black Canyon' from 11*l*. to 2*l*. 10*s*.; and 'The Marguerite' from 4*l*. or 5*l*. and sometimes more, to about 2*l*. On the other hand, it is pleasant to record that works by Stevenson of real literary merit have not suffered in the least; in fact, they are distinctly rising in appreciation and value.

IN the course of last winter Prof. Harnack, of Berlin, gave a brilliant series of lectures on 'Das Wesen des Christenthums' to an audience consisting of students drawn from all the faculties in that university, and Mr. T. B. Saunders, freed from the labours of the London University Commission, has undertaken to translate them. Messrs. Williams & Norgate will bring out the English version in the autumn, under the title 'What is Christianity?'

MR. FISHER UNWIN will shortly publish a book by Mr. Edward Lummis, containing the memorable story of the Speakership of the House of Commons, under the title of 'The Speaker's Chair.'

MR. ELLIOT STOCK will publish shortly 'Three Surrey Churches: a Chapter in English History,' by the Rev. H. R. Ware and Mr. P. G. Palmer. The three churches described are St. Nicholas, Compton, St. Mary, Guildford, and St. Martha, Chilworth. As these churches are intimately connected with the Pilgrims' Way, a supplementary chapter will be added by Major-General Renouard James on the antiquity of the Pilgrims' Way, and the various points of interest and historical association which are met with in its course.

MR. FISHER UNWIN will publish in his "Story of the Nations" series in a few days the long-promised volume on 'Norway,' by Prof. Boyesen. The book will be brought thoroughly up to date by the addition of a new chapter by that competent authority Mr. C. F. Keary on recent events and literature. At the same time Mr. Unwin will issue a new volume in his "Overseas Library" by William Bulfin ("Che Buono"), the editor of the *Southern Cross* of Buenos Ayres, entitled 'Tales of the Pampas.' These are many of them sketches of life on the great Argentine plains, and of the South American gauchos and emigrants on the great sheep and cattle farms. Some of them deal with Irish characters.

MRS. REGINALD WILBERFORCE is printing in the *Pilot* a number of hitherto unpublished letters from Cardinal Newman to the late Bishop Wilberforce. The series begins this week.

THE decision of the House of Lords in the case of *Walter v. Lane* has excited some surprise and provoked a great deal of discussion. Yet it is obvious that the *Times* had a clear grievance, viz., that a report on which money and labour had been spent had been appropriated by Mr. Lane for his own benefit. The case was certainly peculiar, and the legal arguments appeared pretty evenly balanced. The ruling of the Lords will probably be embodied in some shape in the Copyright Bill of next year.

RECENT Parliamentary Papers include a List of Pensions granted during the year ended June 30th, 1900, and charged upon the Civil List ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d.); Queen's College, Cork, Report for the Session 1899-1900, with Appendix (2d.); and Reports from Her Majesty's Representatives in Europe on the Metric System, Part I. ( $\frac{3}{4}$ d.).

### SCIENCE

*The Birds of Cheshire.* By F. A. Coward and C. Oldham. (Manchester, Sherratt & Hughes.)

OF late years some highly satisfactory works have been published upon the faunas of counties or districts, and the book now before us is fully entitled to rank with the best of them. There is no attempt at padding, and there is an absence of any extraneous matter, while a due sense of proportion is preserved. The temptation to make out a large list of birds by admitting species of doubtful occurrence has been successfully resisted, though it has not been wanting, for Cheshire, although touched by no fewer than six counties, is rather poor in the number of its species. To some extent this may be due to the absence of any rocky coast-line, but chiefly to the fact that its position is too much to the west for many migrants, while it is yet a little too far east of a secondary line of flight which crosses the Irish Sea from Wigtonshire to Anglesea. These conditions are very clearly set forth by the authors, who further point out that the recent reclamation and drainage are inevitably responsible for the diminution or disappearance of several species of great interest to the naturalist. Carrington Moss, for instance, was a well-stocked grouse-moor

only fourteen years ago, and now the corn-bunting utters its monotonous note over the ground where the short-eared owl, curlew, snipe, twite, and red grouse nested. In other districts, to use the words of the authors, "the prevailing religion may be said to be the worship of a burnished idol in the shape of a cock pheasant," and in consequence all predaceous birds are under the ban of the game-preserve; but then it is admitted that his action cuts two ways, and the humble and meek species benefit by the destruction of their natural foes. What a part of Cheshire was like in 1791 is shown by a letter written by the first Lord Stanley of Alderley, and we venture to quote it from 'The Early Married Life of Maria Josepha (Holroyd), Lady Stanley,' p. 100:—

"On the other side of this mere the eye rests on a thick venerable wood of beech trees above a hundred and forty years old, planted by one of our great-grandfathers on his marriage. There are no trees so large in the country—that is in beech—for the oaks, alas! are gone. The finest gloom is caused by the blended branches of the woods, and the silence that reigns there is only broken by the shrieks of the large kites, which constantly build their nests in the neighbourhood, and the calls of the teal and wild duck to each other in the mere."

The kites have long ago ceased to breed in Cheshire, though a wanderer from Wales or the Marches is occasionally seen. It is, however, useless to repine against the decrease of other raptorial birds, such as the harriers and the short-eared owl, which were bound to yield before the reclamation of the morasses; but it is some consolation to learn that the beneficial barn-owl, which is often ignorantly persecuted, actually finds a refuge in populous districts, and nests in the houses of the suburbs, such as Bowdon, Sale, Bebbington, and Birkenhead Park.

We must, however, content ourselves with these few allusions to some of the more conspicuous species, for it would serve no useful purpose if we were to enter into details respecting others. It is enough to say that we have read every page of the book, and can find no fault from the ornithologist's point of view; our only objection is to the expression—which is not idiomatic French—*nom de plume*, for pseudonym. The six illustrations are photogravures with an unusually yellow tint, and this contrasts unpleasantly with the paper of the letter-press, while we cannot speak highly of the map; but there is an excellent bibliography, and the index is all that can be desired.

*The Carlsbad Treatment for Tropical and Digestive Ailments, and How to Carry it Out Anywhere*, is the title of a new and revised edition of a book by Dr. Louis Tarleton Young (Thacker & Co.). Dr. Young describes life at Carlsbad before describing a method of treatment which can be followed elsewhere. That some benefit may be derived from bottled Carlsbad water, or from the salts derived from it, is probable; yet this is but a makeshift for drinking the water on the spot. There are several slips in Dr. Young's account of Carlsbad and the life there. He says the ordinary waiters receive no gratuity except from "extremely liberal people," their ambition being to become head waiters and receive all the gratuities. If this be true, then they suffer greatly before the gratification of their ambition, seeing that they do not get any wages. Dr. Young mentions "an ancient custom which

survives in the Austrian dominions," according to which each person entering a house after ten at night has to pay 30 kreutzers to the servant who opens the door. This custom is not general, but it is almost peculiar to Vienna, while the tax is 10, and not 30 kreutzers. "Rost-braten" is not, as he says, "a kind of stew," but it is broiled meat. He writes of "Zwieback" as resembling dry toast, and adds that it can be imitated by placing pieces of bread in an oven till they are coloured and crisp. In truth, a "Zwieback" is simply a rusk. Dr. Young is at home when describing his experience of life in the tropics and the best way of dealing with maladies there. This part of his work is the best.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THERE is a singular inappropriateness in the naming, after Mr. Chamberlain, of "Mount Chamberlain (extinct volcano)," which is to be discovered in new maps a little south of the first parallel of south latitude below the upper waters of the streams which flow into the Albert Edward Nyanza.

Prof. Forel, Prof. Lugon, and Herr Muret (one of the Swiss Federal Inspectors of Forests) have completed their report upon the movement of the glaciers in Switzerland during last year. Seventy-three glaciers in all were observed, ten of which have advanced, but sixty-three retreated. The tendency of the glaciers to diminution is thus rendered more evident. Those glaciers which had increased in 1898 had remained stationary in 1899. The only Swiss glacier which manifests a steady and certain increase is the Glacier de Boveyre in Canton Valais. A growth was observed in the Rosenlaui glacier (Bernese Oberland) in 1897 and 1898, but it did not continue during 1899. The two Grindelwald glaciers, which until lately were decidedly "stable," have begun to decline. The lower Aar glacier, which remained stationary until 1893, has now retreated twenty-three metres. On the Eiger glacier, for the first time since it was measured, a diminution has been observed: it has retreated about seventy metres. All the glaciers in the Rhone valley have retreated, the Rhone glacier itself to the extent of nine and a half metres. Out of the thirty glaciers observed in the Valais twenty-two have shown a decided retreat during the year, three a probable decrease, and only four an evident increase.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* publishes the second sheet of Mr. Robert Smith's 'Botanical Survey of Scotland.' It embraces North Perthshire, with Lochs Rannoch and Tay, and presents highly interesting contrasts with the environs of Edinburgh, already noticed by us. The woods along the valleys stand out prominently, but the greater portion of the area is allotted to heather moors and heaths. We hope Mr. Smith will be enabled to continue this highly valuable series of maps.

Mr. Ewart S. Grogan's account of the remarkable journey from the Zambesi to the Upper Nile, in the *Geographical Journal*, is illustrated by several views of the remarkable volcanoes to the north of Lake Kivu. If an enterprising explorer were to observe the azimuths between one of these volcanoes and some point on Lake Tanganyika the position of which has been carefully determined, the question of the longitude of the northern extremity of that lake would be definitely settled. For the present, at all events, the longitudes determined by Mr. Malcolm Fergusson can only be looked upon as provisional. Perhaps Mr. Kandt, who, we are glad to hear, has been enabled to spend another year in the survey of Lake Kivu and of the country to the north, will settle this much vexed question.

After the dispersion of a French exploring expedition under M. Blanchet in the Western Sahara, and the imprisonment of its leaders by

the Chief of Adrar, the French public must have learnt with satisfaction that the three military expeditions dispatched to Lake Tsad effected their junction on April 21st at Kusuri on the Shari. Lieut. Joalland, of the disastrous expedition originally sent out under Capt. Voulat, was the first to arrive. M. Foureau and Major Lamy followed; and when M. Gentil, coming from the south, joined their forces, the French were in a position to bid defiance to the usurper Rabah of Bornu, whom they defeated in a pitched battle. Rabah himself was wounded, and, after the fashion of Duncan of Knockdunder, a French tirailleur cut off his head. Major Lamy, the leader of the united forces, was mortally wounded.

In the *Revista Portuguesa* will be found an interesting report on the income enjoyed by the Portuguese officials in India. The report is dated December 14th, 1616, and its MS. has been discovered in the library of a Portuguese nobleman. The editor suggests that numerous manuscripts still exist in private libraries which are withheld from the public because it is thought that if they were published they would lose all value. He also urges upon the Lisbon Academy to push on the publication of the 'Livros das Monções,' the fourth volume of which appeared in 1893, and upon Government to cause a thorough search for Portuguese documents to be made in the India archives of Seville. Such a search, he thinks, might yield documents of the highest interest.

#### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE orbit of the new comet (*b*, 1900) has been computed by Herr J. Möller, of Kiel, who determines that the perihelion passage took place on the 3rd inst., at the distance from the sun of 1.015 in terms of the earth's mean distance. The comet is now moving in a north-easterly direction through the constellation Perseus and becoming gradually fainter; at the beginning of next week its brightness will be only three-quarters of that at the time of discovery. It was nearest the earth about the end of last month, when its distance from us was 0.439, or about forty millions of miles.

This month's number of the *Observatory* provides some interesting particulars of the great heat and drought in July as observed at Greenwich. The drought began on July 6th and lasted for twenty days, till broken up by the great thunderstorm on the 27th. The exceptional heat began on the 10th. Between that date and the 27th the recorded sunshine amounted to 203.6 hours, or 71 per cent. of its possible duration; on the 10th it was longest, being 15.3 hours, or 94 per cent. of its possible amount. The heat during the above period was phenomenal; the shade temperature at the Royal Observatory exceeded 90° Fahr. on four days and reached 94° 0 on one of them (July 25th), a temperature higher than any recorded since July 15th, 1881, when it touched 97° 1, the highest registered since 1841, when the meteorological department of the Observatory was established.

The small planet No. 444, which was discovered by M. Coggia at Marseilles on March 31st, 1899, has been named Gypsis.

#### Science Gossip.

WE regret to learn from the *Bookseller* of the decease of Mr. Gurney, of the firm of Gurney & Jackson. Mr. Gurney entered the service of the late Mr. Van Voorst as a lad, and remained with him thirty-nine years. In 1886, when Mr. Van Voorst retired, he and Mr. Jackson took over the business. Unfortunately, Mr. Gurney was disabled by a paralytic stroke five years afterwards, and after that was unable to take any active share in the business.

THE thirteenth International Medical Congress opened in Paris last week under the chairmanship of Prof. Lannelongue. One hundred and

ninety delegates from the governments of thirty-four countries and two hundred representatives of universities, academies, and scientific societies, were present. The delegate for Canada was taken for Lord Lister and enthusiastically cheered. Prof. Virchow delivered a long address on wounds and infection. Nearly 6,000 members were present, Great Britain contributing 217 and the United States 359. France supplies about one-third of the whole.

*Nature* says that the proposed memorial to Sir William Flower is to be erected in the Whale Room of the Natural History Museum.

PROF. VIRCHOW has been elected an Honorary Member of the Mathematical and Natural Science Section of the Vienna Akademie der Wissenschaften, while Prof. Klein, of Göttingen, has been appointed Corresponding Member of the same section.

## FINE ARTS

*A History of Gothic Art in England.* By Edward S. Prior. With Illustrations by Gerald C. Horsley. (Bell & Sons.)

AN adequate general history of English Gothic architecture has long been wanted. Sir G. G. Scott's 'Lectures,' good as they are, cannot, from their form, take the place of a continuous history, and his son's excellent 'History of English Church Architecture' will probably always remain caviare to the general. Most of the best recent work on this subject lies scattered in the transactions of numerous archaeological societies, but the text-books generally used by students concern themselves chiefly with matters of detail, and say little of the important questions of plan and structure which form the basis of all architecture. Mr. Prior, therefore, had practically a clear field before him, and, on the whole, he must be acknowledged to have taken good advantage of his opportunity. Although "his aim has been less to tabulate the conclusions of archaeology than to exhibit the broad impulses of design," his dates of buildings and archaeological facts are generally accurately stated. His book shows wide knowledge of English mediæval work, and he writes with keen enthusiasm for his subject, but his somewhat florid style occasionally proves a little trying to his reader and tends to obscure his meaning. It is as refreshing as it is unusual to find due importance awarded to the plan and general design of Gothic buildings, an importance which is too often assigned to mere details of moulding and carved ornament. The breadth of grasp which characterizes Mr. Prior's treatment of his subject makes this a book which should be of real value to the student of English Gothic, though a word of warning may have to be given against the acceptance of some of Mr. Prior's generalizations. For example, the view that the faiths of the priest, the noble, and the burgess were successively expressed in thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth century architecture requires so much qualification as to make the statement misleading. Some of the chapters would have gained considerably by the adoption of a more systematic method, which would have avoided unnecessary repetition and a certain want of clearness and order in the chronological arrangement of their subjects.

One of the chief objects of the book is to establish the claim of the English style "as

a true line of Gothic creation, native in its origin and in its progress," and "free from continental importation." In the opening chapter the different characteristics of French and English Gothic are well brought out, and the view that English Gothic was a mere importation from the Ile de France is successfully combated. Mr. Prior urges that "Gothic art in England cannot be justly treated as a mere episode of the French, but must be taken as a separate chapter"; we think, however, that there is a little patriotic exaggeration in his assertion of its complete independence. It is certainly true that the English style developed on lines of its own, and was not a mere copy of French work, but it is equally true that it was powerfully influenced by the magnificent creations of the Ile de France in the twelfth century. Mr. Prior, indeed, seems to admit this in his fig. 61, where he gives both the Englishman's work at Canterbury and the choir of Ripon as instances of "the French bay-design in England." His discussion of this important question of foreign influence would have been more satisfactory if he had investigated more scientifically the causes of the systematic adoption of the pointed arch. Although he thinks that far too much has been made of the geometrical convenience of the pointed form in the construction of vaults, he admits that, as abroad, the pointed arch was adopted in England first for structural reasons. But he goes on to say:—

"Mixed causes turned this constructional accident into a necessary feature of æsthetic expression. The convenience for vaulting purposes; the occurrence of the form in the intersecting circles of arcades; the eye of the Crusader, who had grown accustomed to the shape in the East, may each in its turn have suggested, but it was the sweep of advancing art that, seizing on the pointed arch as its plaything, compelled its use for the efficient expression of the Gothic ideal."

It is difficult to guess what this last sentence means—if, indeed, it means anything; but the countries, Normandy and England, which used intersecting circles in wall arcades were precisely those which were most conservative in their retention of the semi-circular arch, and "the eye of the Crusader" and the Syrian churches, which Mr. Prior introduces elsewhere, had as little to do with the origin of Gothic architecture as the overarching forest avenues which used to figure in this connexion. The truth appears to be that Normandy and England (to say nothing of other countries) developed vaulted construction with the aid of the semicircular arch alone much further than did the Ile de France, but that when the latter systematically adopted the pointed arch a style was rapidly developed which cannot but have influenced English architecture, though to a much less extent than was the case in the French provinces.

Mr. Prior's explanation of the causes which differentiated French and English work in the twelfth century cannot be pronounced to be satisfactory. According to him, Benedictine conservatism counted for much, and he contrasts the "monastic" complexion of design in England with the "laic" element in the Ile de France. This "laic" theory comes, of course, from Viollet-le-Duc. It is unfortunate that

English writers on architecture should be so prone to accept just those theories of the brilliant French writer which have been rejected by his own countrymen. This particular theory was exploded twenty years ago by the trenchant criticism of M. Anthyme Saint-Paul. The Cluniac schools of design of which Mr. Prior speaks did not exist outside the Burgundian school which flourished in the home of the order. So, also, neither in England nor France was there any Benedictine style, or any such opposition between "monastic" and "laic" architecture as Mr. Prior suggests, and it is a fallacy to say that "it is the continuance of monastic direction in our English style which really gives the explanation of its want of sympathy with the French." The Benedictine naves of Ely and Peterborough give no support to this view, for even if the nave of Ely can be dated as late as Mr. Prior suggests, both are simply continuations of the earlier design of the eastern parts of those churches. The nave of Selby, which Mr. Prior says shows "quite a comical struggle against new forms," to other eyes simply proves the eagerness with which these new forms were adopted in a Benedictine church, at the expense of the harmonious continuity of the general design. The fact is that monks' churches, canons' churches (regular and secular), and parish churches were alike built in the style of their time. Even in their plans, which were, of course, powerfully influenced by ritual requirements and the rules of the orders, the distinctions which Mr. Prior seeks to establish are largely imaginary. Thus his illustration of a "secular canons' reformed plan" (fig. 30), to which he attaches the name of Southwell, is not a plan of Southwell at all, but of the priory of St. Martin, Dover. The simpler form of what he calls the "Bishops' reformed plan," with an eastern aisle returned across the east gable of the choir, appears early in the twelfth century in the Benedictine nunnery church of Romsey as a modification of the common Norman plan of a large church; it is found in the Cistercian churches of Byland and Dore, and its connexion with the Cistercians is emphasized by its occurrence in Wilard de Honnecourt's sketch-book, and in the German Cistercian churches of Ebrach and Riddagshausen; while at the end of the twelfth century it appears in the great Benedictine abbey of Glastonbury. There cannot be anything specially episcopal about such a plan. Later in the book we find the Glastonbury transept figuring as an illustration of "Augustinian" bay-design. It is unfortunate that the study of church plan, which is a valuable part of Mr. Prior's book, should be thus spoilt by the attempt to draw distinctions where no real distinctions exist. There can be no doubt that the conservative tendency of English architecture during the twelfth century, as contrasted with contemporary work in the Ile de France, was due to the fact that England, with Normandy, had already developed a Romanesque style of remarkable excellence, which could not fail to influence later builders; to this powerful influence was due the conservatism which Mr. Prior, erroneously, as we think, attributes to monastic tradition.

Mr. Prior holds that the summit of Gothic art was reached in the latter part of the thirteenth century. Perhaps this view leads him to do a little less than justice to the architecture of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, to which only about one-fourth of his space is allotted. We might naturally have expected a fuller treatment of these later centuries, during which England developed an entirely national manner, uninfluenced from any foreign source. Only a single chapter is devoted to Gothic architecture after 1350, and the history of a period of the greatest interest is thus but slightly sketched. The study of "local schools and centres of craft, which made distinct sub-styles in their districts," is one of the most valuable and original features of the book, which will, we may hope, stimulate inquiry in this direction, for much remains to be done before these centres of local influence can be properly recognized. Mr. Prior apparently had not space to follow up this study in the later periods, but it was hardly necessary for him to take masons from the Severn valley across England to York and Beverley to execute work which has little affinity with that at Gloucester.

The interest and value of the book are largely increased by Mr. Horsley's illustrations, most of which are admirable, though some of the reproductions are rather thin in effect. In one or two of the diagrams of bay-designs the scale is entirely destroyed by inaccurate jointing of the masonry, representing the stones as much larger than they really are. The pier section, fig. 57, ii., which is supposed to be drawn to scale, is most inaccurate. But, on the whole, no English book on this subject can boast of such excellent illustrations.

There are too many small mistakes in the text, which should have been corrected. Several villages are placed in wrong counties, and we find curious spellings like "Bayeaux," "Landisfarne," "Tidewell," &c. Among personal names are "Thurston" for Thurstan, "Walter Constance" for Walter of Coutances, "Roger Pont d'Eveque," with the odd possessives "Rogers'" and "Rogers's," "Gonze" for Gonse, "Glaber Raoul" for Raoul Glaber, and "Mr. Harrison Park" for Park Harrison. An architect, too, should spell the name of William Burges properly.

*Macmillan's Art Studies* (Macmillan) comprises, at the price of sixpence, thirty-two copies for the use of teachers of drawing, which, generally speaking, are good in their way, but rather absurdly described as 'Art Studies.' The best of them are simple outlines fit for drawing from, some conventionalized, others realistic, of plants, common objects such as utensils, tools, and small machines. The sketches of animals are not well drawn, spirited, nor suitable, and some of the apparatus requires in order to be understood so much knowledge of perspective as should belong to a different and much more advanced category of 'Studies' than those which are the staple of the book.

*The First Elements of Science arranged as Observation Lessons and co-related with Drawing.* By G. Ricks. Illustrated by A. Wilkinson. Parts I., II., III. (Macmillan & Co.)—Mr. Ricks, it would seem from his title-page, is an Inspector, Mr. Wilkinson a Superintendent, of Drawing, attached to the School Board for

London, but it is to be hoped they have not many opportunities for carrying out their notions of teaching.

#### THE ARCHEOLOGICAL JOURNALS.

*Records of Buckinghamshire; or, Papers and Notes on the History, Antiquities, and Architecture of the County.* Nos. 1 and 2. Vol. VIII. (Aylesbury, De Fraine.)—The extracts from the accounts of the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of High Wycombe contributed by Mr. R. S. Downs are somewhat heavy reading, but are useful, as they throw much incidental light on the condition of the poor in the last and the earlier part of the present century. The old poor law was bad enough in its statutory provisions, but we imagine that the overseers and the justices of the peace whose duty it was to keep these Bumbles in some sort of order were in many parts of the country at one in a desire to carry out the law in a far more drastic manner than the legislature ever contemplated. So late as 1806 we come upon the following entry, which by no means stands alone: "Expenses going to London to apprehend Thomas Clements, bringing him therefrom, and fetching the woman from Brill to be married, 8l. 0s. 8d., marriage fees, &c., 4l. 14s." Another entry of a very similar kind occurs ten years later. Times are so changed for the better that we apprehend many of our readers will be puzzled to interpret the above. What they really signify is that a man who had an intrigue with a woman, to make good his real or alleged promise of marriage, was promptly taken into custody, and, as it would seem, kept in confinement until he consented to become her husband. This was not done from any perverted notions of justice, but solely for the purpose of saving the ratepayers from the additional charge of supporting the woman and her offspring. Historians who have dwelt with well-deserved indignation on the marriages which were practically enforced by the old feudalisms should remember that until the reign of William IV. a state of things existed, so far as the poor were concerned, which is not surpassed in cruelty by anything to be found in our mediæval law-books. The removal of persons from one village to another until they reached their place of "settlement" was the cause of an amount of cruelty of which it is painful to think. This was more especially done when people were sick or when an accident had happened, for then there was a dread of the doctor's bill, and it might be funeral expenses also. Vagrants, too, were a great terror, and not unreasonably so, notwithstanding the floggings which, with no unsparring hand, were doled out by the justices alike to men and women. Wandering beggars swarmed in all the parishes around London and other large towns, and, though less numerous in the purely agricultural districts, they continued to be a source of danger in many parts of the country until the establishment of the local police. It was estimated that in many places householders who had not male servants to protect them gave away in forced alms to these strollers more than they contributed to the poor rate. Mr. J. L. Myres's paper on the church plate of the rural deanery of Claydon is useful, but no ecclesiastical silver of more than secondary interest is to be found therein. The Elizabethan vessels, of which several examples occur, are all of the design fashionable when new cups had to be provided for the Reformed service. A pre-Reformation super-altar has escaped destruction at Addington. It had been walled up in the church, and was discovered in 1857. It is now inserted in the slab of the communion table. These portable altars were in use in early times. Bede mentions one as being in the possession of missionaries who were martyred in Friesland, and there is one in the library of the Dean and Chapter of Durham which is thought to have belonged to St. Cuthbert. As late as 1556 Car-

dinal Pole granted to the then Lord Berkeley "habere altare portatile" in his chapel at Callowden, in Warwickshire. Very few English specimens are known. They would naturally be objects of no interest after the change in religious feeling had taken place. The ecclesiastical inventories of Wycombe have been in part dealt with before, but as a connected whole have never been printed until now. Mr. W. H. St. John Hope has carefully edited them, with appropriate notes. This has not been an easy task, as they have been interlined in a nearly contemporary hand in a perplexing manner. Mr. John Parker has furnished the Society with a condensed account of the excavations at Silchester. This was not required by those who have access to the *Archæologia*, but to others it will prove useful. The writer is convinced that the small building, the basal courses of which were discovered in 1892, has been a Christian church. We have little doubt that he has come to a correct conclusion.

*Gloucestershire Notes and Queries.* Edited by W. P. W. Phillimore and Sidney J. Madge. Vol. VII. Parts IV.-VIII. (Phillimore & Co.)—The subjects dealt with in the *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries* are seldom of more than local interest. There is an exception, however, in the case of the paper which treats of the tomb of John Codrington, in Wapley Church. It is, the writer says, of good fifteenth-century work, but it is not the tomb itself so much as the inscription that is of interest. The person whom it commemorates, it tells us, died in 1475, and his age was one hundred and eleven years, five months, and thirteen days. The writer "is certain that the inscription has not been tampered with." It is, of course, not impossible that it is witnessing to the truth, but most of our readers will feel unable to accept it as such without confirmatory evidence. Some mistake has probably occurred. Can it be that the letters indicating the date have not been put in right order? It is expressed in black-letter thus, cxi. What if they were intended to stand thus, xcxi, taking off twenty years? Ninety-one is a good age, but not abnormal, while one hundred and eleven impinges on, though it does not overpass, the boundary line of possibility. This John Codrington was, in his day, by no means an unknown man. Cannot some Gloucestershire student throw light on the subject? It has an anthropological as well as an antiquarian interest. Mr. Cecil T. Davis has for some time past been engaged on the compilation of a work on the monumental brasses of the county, and he has done his work exceedingly well. Though issued in the same covers with the *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, it is pagged separately and may be bound as an independent volume. The illustrations are good and there are many of them. In Northleach Church there is a brass of about 1530 to a priest named William Lauder, the inscription on which indicates how the devotional Latin of the Middle Ages was fading before neo-classic modes of thought. We here find the Blessed Virgin addressed as "regina poli," and God as "Numen celi." At Fairford there are two separate brasses commemorating Sir Edmond Tame and his two wives. Mr. Davis says that this is the only instance of what we may call duplicate brasses to be found in the shire. We do not know how to account for them except on the assumption that one had been made as a memorial for some religious house, and been transferred to Fairford at the Dissolution. The most interesting of the later brasses is in Wormington Church. It commemorates Anne, wife of John Savage of Norbury, Worcestershire, who evidently died in childbed. She is represented lying in a large four-post bedstead, with her little baby, folded up in mummy-like form, lying on the coverlet beside her. The curtains are looped back, and the bed is standing by the side of a large window having quadrangular panes.

## EGYPTOLOGICAL BOOKS.

*The Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty.* Part I. By W. M. Flinders Petrie. (Egypt Exploration Fund.)—Prof. Petrie's work last winter at Abydos, as here recorded, is important, not only for the value of the results obtained, but for the light it throws upon former discoveries. It will be remembered that M. Amélineau, working on this site in 1895, discovered monuments inscribed with the "hawk names" of several kings whom he claimed as reigning before Menes. Many wild guesses have been made as to the probable date of these kings, but now Prof. Petrie shows, we think, conclusively that two of them correspond to the sixth and seventh names respectively of Manetho's First Dynasty, and that the others belong to the same period of civilization, and are therefore probably of something like the same date. Besides this he has unearthed an entirely new tomb in the same cemetery, containing the remains of yet another king, to whom the same remarks apply; and he has also collected a great mass of material, consisting of the usual inscribed ivory and ebony tablets, stone vases, jar sealings, and other inscribed fragments, all which are faithfully reproduced in the plates of this, the eighteenth memoir of the Fund. As these last are nearly seventy in number, the subscribers cannot complain that they do not get plenty for their money. Of the effect of these discoveries it is at present rather early to speak, and probably it would have been better had the volume been delayed until some more serious effort had been made to decipher the inscriptions and to co-ordinate the results than seems to have been the case. Prof. Petrie claims to have identified every king in Manetho's First Dynasty with one or other of the fragments before us. It may turn out that these identifications are justified, and much respect should always be paid to the opinion of the excavator who actually sees the objects uncovered, and has therefore more material for forming his judgment than the critic, who can only go by the arguments he afterwards prints. But in this case, at any rate, he appears to have walked a good deal by faith, and his attempt to establish the relative dates of the tombs by a comparison of the objects found in each is rather knocked on the head by his artless remark that "the scattering of pieces has been so thorough during the various plunderings of the ground, that pieces of the same bowl are found on the opposite sides of a tomb, or even in different tombs." Moreover, the jar sealing on which he relies for proof that M. Amélineau's King Den is the Usaphaidos of Manetho is not here given, because, as he frankly says, he has at present only a very fragmentary impression, and hopes to find more perfect ones later. Altogether we think it will be as well to wait for the appearance of the rest of the evidence before going into this question. We think, meantime, we may fairly protest against the eccentricities of transliteration which again appear here. The well-known group of hieroglyphs in the royal protocol, consisting of a bee and a reed-plant placed over two hemispheres—Prof. Petrie once called them drill-caps—has hitherto been generally read as "suten net." The last word may equally well be read "bat," and this derives some support from Herodotus's well-known remark, here quoted by Prof. Petrie, that the Libyans called a king "Battus." Yet in this volume Prof. Petrie, without explaining why, always writes this royal title as "suten biti," while his collaborator Mr. Griffith, in a chapter on "The Inscriptions," prefers the awful compound "stn'y byty." When we consider that we were last year introduced by Mr. Griffith, in his volume on 'Hieroglyphs,' to a brand-new system of transliteration suggested by Prof. Petrie, and consisting of the ordinary alphabetic hieroglyphs in small print, we cannot help wondering if the Exploration Fund is going to use a new system every year.

*Hierakonpolis.* Part I. By S. E. Quibell. (Quaritch.)—This, the fourth memoir of the Egyptian Research Account, contains the plates of a part of Mr. Quibell's discoveries at Hierakonpolis in 1898. The remainder, with Mr. Quibell's remarks upon them, will, it is understood, be published later, the few pages of description which accompany the present volume being contributed by Prof. Petrie. The objects here reproduced are of great interest, perhaps the most important of them being a large slate carved with sculptures of warlike scenes in low relief, together with three huge mace-heads treated in the same way. All these seem to have been made in honour of a king who may have been named Nar-mer, and who seems to have been nearly contemporary with some of the early kings of Abydos, where inscriptions of himself have been found. From these we are able to judge of the high civilization which Egypt had already reached under her first dynasty. On one of the maces we see the king, attended by his fan-bearers, opening in ceremonial fashion some kind of irrigation works, while in all Nar-mer's sculptures the style is both freer and better than in any Egyptian monument up to the time of the eighteenth dynasty. Moreover, the find at Hierakonpolis includes on the one hand a neolithic deposit of prehistoric age, containing, among other things, some carved ivories with curious processions of animals, and on the other relics of kings previously known otherwise, such as Kha-sekhem of the second dynasty, and Pepi of the sixth. Among the last named is a beautiful figure of a hawk made of bronze plates laid on a wooden foundation with a head of beaten gold. Prof. Petrie thinks that this may possibly be of the sixth dynasty, and may represent the god of Hierakonpolis. We shall await with interest Mr. Quibell's memoir on the subject, and in the meantime would recommend all interested in the subject to inspect, if possible, the objects themselves, many of which are in the Ashmolean Museum.

THE BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
AT LEICESTER.

THE fifty-seventh annual congress of the above Association commenced at Leicester on Monday, July 30th, with a reception of the members in the Museum Buildings by the Mayor, the High Sheriff of Leicestershire, and various members of the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society.

The Mayor, in welcoming the Association to Leicester, referred to the fact that, notwithstanding its modern importance and business activity, it was a town of great antiquity, and was, indeed, in former days, for some considerable period, the seat of a bishop, and a city for over twelve centuries. He would be glad if the visitors could throw any light upon the way in which their lost dignity could be recovered.

Mr. R. Smith-Carington, the High Sheriff, in the absence of the President, the Marquis of Granby, then delivered the inaugural address. Referring briefly to the legend of the foundation of the city by King Lear, he dealt with the history of the town down to comparatively recent days, through the Roman, Saxon, and Danish occupations, and mentioned the many relics of its ancient inhabitants which had been discovered in excavations in the town. He also briefly touched on the history of Belvoir Castle, Bradgate House, said to be the birth-place of Lady Jane Grey, and Bosworth Field. A reference to Cardinal Wolsey and his death in Leicester Abbey brought an interesting paper to a close.

The Mayoress also joined in welcoming the visitors in a few well-chosen remarks, in which she referred to the historical associations of the town, and mentioned particularly the great part which the guilds played in mediæval life,

especially the Guild of Corpus Christi, which was particularly strong in Leicester.

The party then dispersed to examine the Roman and other antiquities in the museum under the guidance of Mr. Montague Brown, the curator. The museum is remarkably well kept and well arranged, and a model of what a provincial museum should be. It is particularly rich in Samian ware found in the town and neighbourhood, and, as an illustration of the value which its possessors set upon this ware, it may be noted that many of the pieces had been broken and mended with leaden rivets in Roman days. It would naturally be valuable in an outlying province of the empire like Britain, to which every piece had to be brought over sea from the Continent. The Roman milestone discovered on the line of the Foss Way in 1771, and marking a distance of "two miles from Ratæ," i.e., Leicester, attracted much attention.

Tuesday, July 31st, was occupied with a visit to Belvoir. Leaving Leicester at 10 a.m., the party proceeded by train to Statthorn, whence carriages were taken for the castle. Modern Belvoir is, of course, a magnificent pile, but has been so often described, and is of so slight archaeological interest, that we may pass it by. Of the ancient castle, founded by Robert de Todeni, standard-bearer to the Conqueror, nothing now remains but a few fragments discovered in the foundations of the present building. It was probably erected on the site of an ancient British encampment. At the foot of the castle hill Robert de Todeni, in 1077, founded a priory for four black monks, which in later days became a cell of the monastery of St. Albans. Recent excavations made, though in a somewhat desultory manner, by Mr. Pogson, the landlord of the Peacock Inn, have disclosed some interesting remains of the foundations of the priory church, including nave, apsidal choir, and side chapels; but these are too fragmentary to enable any idea of the architecture of the building to be formed. The church formerly contained many monuments of the Todeni, Albini, and De Roos families, but all are gone.

At the evening meeting, held in the Town Hall, Dr. W. de Gray Birch gave an account of the charters and other historical records of the borough of Leicester. He said that we know nothing of mediæval Leicester until the end of the twelfth century, the first charter being dated in the first year of King John. That much maligned monarch, who had been painted in the blackest colours, but whom he believed to have been as good a king as any we have had, recognized the value of more closely knitting together the interests of sovereign and people. In this charter the first mention is made of the "burgesses" of Leicester. It is short, but grants most important privileges. In those days, unless specially permitted, every man was compelled to remain in the town in which, and to follow the trade to which, he was born. This charter runs:—

"John, King of England, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, Count of Anjou, &c., to all whom it may concern, know ye that we have granted to our burgesses of Leicester that freely and without any impediment they may go and perform their businesses throughout all our land, with all their matters of merchandise, saving to us all the dues and just customs which belong to us."

Henry III. granted three charters, Edward III. twelve, and Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., and Charles II. granted a great many. Among others, James I., about 1623, granted one giving "the power of purchasing houses, tenements, lands, rectories, tithes, and hereditaments of all kinds in the kingdom of England," a most important one, as these things could not be done except by virtue of a grant. Charters are above all law, hence the importance of their careful preservation. In conclusion, Dr. Birch

said he was glad to notice that, with one or two exceptions, the charters of Leicester had been well cared for, but all should be copied in the original and translated.

The second paper was by Mr. W. A. Carrington, Archivist of Belvoir, entitled 'Belvoir Castle and Priory,' and was read, in his absence, by the Rev. H. J. Dukinfield Astley, hon. secretary. The paper dealt in an interesting manner with the history of the castle and of the families who had successively held it until it came into the possession of the Manners family; the various charters granted, of which, here again, the earliest is one of King John; and with the foundation, history, and monuments of the priory.

On Wednesday, August 1st, a large party started at 10 A.M. for Kirby Muxloe Castle, Groby, Ulvescroft Priory, and Bradgate. The morning was wet and the weather continued showery, but notwithstanding a most enjoyable day was spent in this interesting series of visits. Mr. J. A. Gotch read a paper descriptive of Kirby Muxloe. He commenced by saying that this was not so much a military stronghold as a fortified dwelling-house, though the distinction was not at first, perhaps, very great. As civilization advanced and security increased, the fortified castle or manor-house gave way to the comfortable mansion. In early days the great hall occupied the centre, and was as much protected as the rest of the buildings; later on it was placed in one of the wings with larger windows; and later still it was placed on the outer walls, protected only by the moat. Mr. Gotch went on to say that here we have the remains of a fortified house built round a court and surrounded by a moat. Nine-tenths of the fabric have disappeared, the parts that remain belonging only to the defensive portions, so that any restoration is largely conjectural. In the centre of the front, approached by a drawbridge over the moat, still stands the great gateway, flanked by two canted turrets; at each corner stood a tower, of which one still remains. Halfway on each side is a projection in the shape of a tower. Opposite the entrance, but not in the axial line, is another projection, which was probably the bay-window of the great hall, and the moat is wider on that side. Kirby in point of date comes midway between Haddon Hall and Burghley House. Unlike Haddon, it was built at one effort, and, unlike Burghley, at a time when defence of a kind was still needed. To judge by the work and the symmetrical arrangement, it was built at a fairly late date, and from the fact that the detail is entirely Gothic it could not have been very late. It is built throughout of red brick, with a diaper of blue brick. There are stone dressings to the doors and windows, the detail of which is rather large and simple.

By a series of brilliant inductions, founded on the letters W. H. over the gateway, and from the figure of a maunch which can be made out in the blue diaper-work on one of the turrets, Mr. Gotch concluded that the castle was built by Sir William Hastings, who succeeded his father in 1456, was a devoted adherent of Edward IV., was made a baron in 1461, and beheaded by Richard III. in 1483; and from the absence of a coronet he fixed the date between 1456 and 1461. The plain barrel vaulting of the lower rooms and the brickwork of the staircase are very fine. Each room contained a fireplace, though Henry VII.'s palace at Richmond later on still had none. There are no signs of plaster, the walls being probably covered with tapestry. Each of the turrets contains a round hole, with stone dressings, for cannon, commanding the approach, and low down, so that the cannon could rest on the floor. The place has no historical associations. How long it was inhabited is not known, but it is most interesting as showing the domestic manners of the fifteenth century.

A move was then made to Groby, where Mr.

I. C. Gould described the manor-house and ancient castle. The former is but a child, even in its oldest part, in comparison with the latter. In the thirteenth century the estate of Groby came into the possession of the Ferrers family, who held it for two hundred years, until in the fifteenth century the line ended with an heiress, who married Edward Grey, who became Lord Ferrers of Groby, and from whom descended Thomas, first Marquis of Dorset, in the latter part of the same century. The house is a patchwork of stone and brick. There is no reason to doubt the statement that a Ferrers built the oldest portion, but in that case the windows are insertions, while the brick part is due to the first Marquis of Dorset, who died in 1501. Leland visited it in 1540, but much that he saw is gone. The most interesting associations of the place are connected with Elizabeth Woodville, Queen of Edward IV., whose first husband was Sir John Grey, son of the first Lord Ferrers, slain at St. Albans in 1461. At the back of the hall the keep mound and a few adjoining earthworks may be seen; all that now remains of the once important Castle of Groby. We know that it was destroyed by Henry II. after the feudal revolt of 1173. But who shall say when the mound was first raised? There is evidence of solid masonry upon it, in which case it must have existed for many years before it would solidify sufficiently to carry a shell keep of stone. Perhaps this fort, like Bakewell, owes its first existence to the trouble between Saxon and Dane early in the tenth century, though, for any evidence to the contrary, it may be that the Normans threw up the mound in the eleventh century. But whether due to Saxon, Dane, or Norman, its first defences were wooden stockading or palisading, and the stone keep was in all probability due to the time of anarchy in King Stephen's reign.

The next place visited was Ulvescroft Priory, which was described by Mr. George Patrick, hon. secretary. After referring to the exhaustive paper by the late Mr. Gordon Hills, which was read on the occasion of the Association's previous visit in 1862, Mr. Patrick said that he had searched Dugdale, Burton, and Nichols without adding materially to Mr. Hills's information, and from personal inspection he could say that the ruins were in much the same state to-day as they were thirty-eight years ago. "Osovescroft," or Ulvescroft, is situated in the midst of the forest of Charnwood, described by Burton (1622) as "a solitary place," and by Leland (1520) as "a wast twenty miles in compass, and in the forest is no good towne nor scant a village." The priory was founded in 1134 by Robert Bossu, second Earl of Leicester, for "Friars Eremites." The order is not certain; they "professed a regular life," and "elected their prior by common consent of the brethren according to the rule of the Blessed Augustine." The order of Austin Friars was not founded till 1220, nor the Austin Canons till 1139, when Pope Innocent III. ordered all regular canons to adopt the rule of St. Augustine. The Dominicans and Franciscans commenced in 1215-16. These Friars Eremites therefore belonged to one of many independent brotherhoods, without any distinctive denomination. The ruins are mainly of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; there are some Early English features, but nothing remains of the original building, which was semi-Norman or Transitional. The buildings of 1134 were probably of wood, of which there was plenty in the forest. There were only three inmates originally, and never more than eight. The whole was surrounded by a lofty wall, moated outside for protection. The church is at the north end, the domestic buildings on the south, an arrangement dictated by the drainage and water supply. The later church, the ruins of which remain, consists of a nave, chancel, north aisle, and western tower. The earlier church would have no

tower, as towers were then forbidden. The north walk of the cloister and the conventual buildings abut on the south wall of the nave. There is no chancel arch; an "upper story" ran all round without break from west to east. The roof must have run in one unbroken length, for there are no traces of wall-pieces or shafts. About the end of the fifteenth century the west end of the nave was taken down to allow of the insertion of the tower. The western portion of the Early English south wall of the nave remains alongside the tower, with a space between, and the canopied top of an Early English buttress over the roof of a shed at the angle. Part of the west wall of the nave, with remains of a diagonal buttress, is probably of the same date as the tower. On the east face of the tower may still be seen the weathering of the old nave roof, that is, the roof before the "upper story" was added. There are remains of thirteenth-century work in the south wall of the nave and in two doors on that side, and a mutilated two-light window, high up for the cloister roof to run below. There are more traces of the domestic buildings than of the church, though they are but fragmentary, and they probably followed the usual arrangement. A building to the south, now a farmhouse, was the parlour or day-room. The walls are very thick, of Early English work, and the windows and doors are fifteenth-century insertions. The floor, of red tiles, has in the centre a circular stone 1 ft. 7 in. in diameter, from which the tiles radiate in a figure something like a cross. Due south stood the refectory, with the projecting steps to the pulpit still visible. On the west was the guest hall, with Early English windows. This is now a barn, and parts of the old timber roof, of late fifteenth or early sixteenth century work, remain. There is no trace of the cloisters above ground. The moat, broad and dry, remains on the north, east, and south sides; on the west it is merged in the fishponds. The bridge was on the east. The priory received such high testimony from the commissioners of Thomas Cromwell in 1536 that it secured a brief respite, but in 1539 the prior and canons said mass for the last time, and signed its transfer to the king. It is now, as we have said, a farm; but it is sad to see a building once sacred to religious uses given over to cattle and pigs and fowls, while the nave of the once beautiful monastic church is filled with stacks, and the chancel is a dunghill.

After lunch at the Bradgate Arms, Newtown Linford, the drive was resumed through the Park to Bradgate House, which was described by Col. Bellairs. Only the outer walls, the chapel, and one tower remain of this once splendid mansion, which belonged to the Greys of Groby, and here Lady Jane Grey is said to have been born. It was here, at any rate, that her tutor, Roger Ascham, was amazed to find her engaged in study, while all her young companions were tilting in the yard which may still be seen. The house remained until the beginning of the eighteenth century, when it was burnt to the ground by the then Countess of Stamford. Writing to her sister in London, in answer to a question as to how she liked the place, she replied that the house was tolerable, the country a forest, and the inhabitants all brutes. Her sister thereupon advised her to "set fire to the house and run away by the light of it," which she is reported to have done. A fine monument to the first Lord Grey of Groby, who died in 1614, and to his wife, is to be seen in the chapel, which has been recently re-roofed.

On the drive back to Leicester, Thurstaston was passed, where a cottage, said to have been the birthplace of Latimer, was noticed. But this is modern, Latimer's house having long since disappeared.

At the evening meeting a most interesting paper, giving an account of all that may be known of the abbey of St. Mary de Pratiss at Leicester, was read by Mr. C. H. Compton, and

an exhaustive paper on 'The Roman Roads of Leicestershire' was read by Col. Bellairs.

Thursday, August 2nd, was devoted to a perambulation of the town of Leicester, and an inspection of its most noted objects of interest. The first visit was paid to St. Margaret's Church, which was described by Canon Rendell, the vicar. A church is said to have been founded here in 731 as the seat of a bishop, whose simple dwelling stood nearby. The present church was founded by Robert Bossu, second Earl of Leicester. There are remains of late Transitional work (*circa* 1190) in the eastern respond of the first arch. The south aisle and south arcade are Early English, 1250; while the south doorway is a little later. The north aisle and north arcade, with two curious trefoil windows above the chancel arch, date from about 1300, while the chancel, tower, porch, clearstory, and vestry with hagioscope were erected about 1400 to 1450. North of the altar, within the sacarium, is a fine monument to Bishop Penny, Abbot of Leicester, and Bishop of Bangor and Carlisle. A remarkable huddled-up figure in the niche to the north of the east window is said to represent Robert Bossu. Bell-founding was an industry in Leicester during three centuries, and for the most part in one family—that of Newcombe. The six bells of St. Margaret's were cast by a Thomas Newcombe, who died in 1594. His monument is in the church, bearing three bells above his name.\* The next church visited was that of All Saints, an interesting little building, also founded by Robert Bossu in 1199. A curious clock, with two figures which strike the hours, formerly in the west front, has been restored and placed over the south porch, under a small gable, which hardly affords sufficient protection against the weather.

Passing the old grammar school in High Cross Street, in which a capital collection of antiquities, chiefly Roman, belonging to Mr. John Spurway, a citizen of Leicester, was inspected, the party proceeded to the ancient church of St. Nicholas, at the east end of which is the district known as "Holy Bones," said to have been the scene of sacrifices in Roman days, and of martyrdoms at the time of the Reformation, while at the west end are the remains of a wall of Roman construction, known as the Jewry wall. The church was described in a most elaborate paper by Mr. Charles Lynam. The present building consists of nave, with clearstory and north and south aisles, a central tower, north transept, and a south chapel, which is an eastern extension of the south aisle. The chapel contains a triple sedilia with piscina recess. The alterations in the building have been so numerous that its architectural history can only be dealt with easily by wall, and recent "restoration" may easily lead one into a trap. Only a brief *résumé* can be attempted here. After referring to ancient and modern authorities—among the latter being Mr. Edward Roberts, who described the church on the occasion of the visit of the Association in 1862—Mr. Lynam said all will agree that the structure is of intense interest to the archaeologist and historian. Its architecture, construction, materials, and varied dates go to make up a precious relic of the past. The feature of greatest interest is the north wall of the nave. This embodies an arcade of two bays, two small and peculiar openings above the arches, and a clearstory palpably of a date at least four centuries later than the work beneath it. The actual division is plainly visible in the wall. That the two main arches are of Norman workmanship no one will debate. The two small openings above the arches may be regarded as genuine. They are formed of Roman brick picked up at hand,

but the point is, Did the same men who turned the great arches construct these two rude openings? Mr. Lynam's answer, for a variety of cogent reasons, was emphatically, No. These openings were originally windows, and must be pronounced to be very early Norman or pre-Norman work. Moreover, their glazing or shutter line is in the midst of the wall, which is of great thickness, and this is a well-known characteristic of Saxon date. This south aisle has been divided from the nave by one huge arch, "an engineering feat, but an architectural monstrosity." The central tower is of good, bold Norman character. The chancel is mainly Early English work of the reign of King John, and of exquisite design. The remaining features of the church present no difficulty, but were dealt with in great detail by Mr. Lynam. There are three bells, one inscribed "I.H.S. Nazarenus Rex, 1656, G. Oldfield."

After a brief visit to the newly found Roman pavement, with its beautiful guilloche border, geometrical pattern, and central peacock figure, partly destroyed—the whole suffering also, as was noticed with regret, from the depredations of visitors—the party inspected the ancient hall of the Guild of Corpus Christi, the windows of which still contain some ancient glass, and the old Town Hall, where Shakespeare is said to have played, and proceeded to St. Martin's Church, which was described by the vicar. This was the municipal and corporation church, as St. Margaret's was the ecclesiastical. Here the archdeacon held his court in the south chapel, which was formerly that of the Guild of Corpus Christi. The church is said to stand on the site of the Roman temple of Diana, and many bones and other relics have been found.

After lunch the Roman pavement, which is now under the Great Central station, was visited, and subsequently a move was made to the church of St. Mary de Castro, situated within the castle precincts. This was described by Col. Bellairs. The church is a splendid structure, and was founded by Robert de Beaumont, father of Robert Bossu, in 1107. Several Norman details may be seen in the present walls. The south aisle is disproportionately large, but this is due to its having been the parish church, while the nave and chancel were originally conventual. A visit to the castle, part of which is now used as the court-house; to the mound, which is all that remains of the Norman keep; and to Trinity Hospital, founded in 1330 by Henry, Earl of Lancaster, but of which the present building is all modern, brought a long and interesting day to a close.

At the evening meeting Mr. I. C. Gould read a valuable paper, entitled 'Notes on Early Fortifications.' He urged forcibly that more attention should be paid to the study of this subject, and recommended each local society to take surveys of those in their own counties. This is the more important as the opportunity is fast vanishing through the destruction of these monuments of the past. Mr. Gould divided earthworks into six classes, the first being those in which early man selected a rocky eminence, defended on all sides save one, which he fortified by means of a rampart and fosse, as at Coombe Moss, in Derbyshire; (2) mighty works crowning and surrounding some great hill, as at Mam Tor, in Derbyshire; (3) a large enclosure with a bank and ditch drawn across it, dividing the camp into two unequal sections, as at Maiden Castle (the first two are certainly prehistoric; this one is probably late Celtic and pre-Roman, though some have assigned it to the time of the first Saxon incursions); (4) the Roman camps, distinctly offensive and rectangular; (5) the Saxon and Danish camps, consisting of a mound and court, and later an inner and outer court or bailey, defended first by wooden palisading and stockade, and with a moat or moats enclosing the whole. Later still the Norman keep was

built on the summit of the mound. Of these there are multiplied examples from Tamworth, Cardiff, and Arundel to Ongar and Windsor. The sixth and last type consists of simple moated enclosures, mostly in lowland districts; these were, perhaps, originally Danish, but became very common from the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries, as moated manor-houses or granges. Mr. Gould was heartily thanked for his paper, which was warmly received. Another paper, by Dr. Brushfield, on 'A Leicester Church Brief of 1640,' was read, in the author's absence, by the Rev. H. J. Dukinfield Astley.

On Friday, August 3rd, the Association joined in an excursion with the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society, under the guidance of Mr. Thomas Harrold. The start was made in carriages and brakes at 10 A.M. by a large party, in spite of most unfavourable weather, for Market Bosworth and Bosworth Field. The first halt was made at Newbold Verdon, where the moated manor-house was visited, but a much more interesting Elizabethan house, with projecting porch and upper room, was passed at Desford on the way.

At Market Bosworth the grammar school, rendered memorable because Dr. Johnson was once an usher there, was inspected, after which a visit was paid to the church. This has been well restored. The tower arch is a beautiful example of the Transitional style of the early fourteenth century, the arch itself being Early English, while the mouldings are Decorated. After lunch the drive was continued to Bosworth Field, the principal features of the battle being pointed out and described by Mr. Harrold. In opposition to Mr. Gairdner, Mr. Harrold maintained that not only Richmond, but Richard III. had a morass on his right, i.e., there was one on the right flank of each army. Four hundred years have made an enormous change in the aspect of the country; hedges and fields exist now where all was open common then, and the smiling country looks as though it could never have known the "bloody gage of battle." The one small monument of the fight was viewed with interest—a pyramid of stone 10 ft. high, erected, it is said, by Dr. Parr, with a Latin inscription, over the well from which Richard drank on that fateful day—August 22nd, 1485.

The drive was resumed, *vid* Dadlington, to Stoke Golding, and thence back to Leicester. A stop was made at Dadlington to examine the church, an old building of no great size, and much spoilt by "restoration." Many of the ancient roof timbers have been removed. The clearstory is gone, and the little tower, formerly roofed with timber shingle, is now covered with glaring red tiles! At Stoke Golding, on the other hand, there is a splendid church scarcely touched by the hand of the "restorer." Unfortunately he is said to be on the way, but it is to be devoutly hoped that his ardour may be kept within bounds, and only necessary repairs executed; for this church, as it stands, and with the weathering of 600 years on its stones, is a magnificent example of one period throughout, i.e., the Decorated or Geometrical Gothic. It was founded, as an inscription tells us, by "Robert de Champaign and Margaret his wife in honour of St. Margaret the Virgin, in the time of Edward I.," and the founders' tomb may be seen in the south aisle. The church consists of nave, chancel, and south aisle (prolonged into a chapel extending to a level with the east wall of the chancel). There is a fine west tower and spire. The south aisle originally ended at the chancel arch, and the south wall of the chancel was an exterior one. In this wall there are remains of Early English work, and a beautiful little lancet window, now looking into the chapel. The nave arcade is very fine, the caps of the piers being elaborately adorned with foliage, interspersed with grotesque figures. The western pier bears the representa-

\* The road leading from St. Margaret's westwards is called Sanny Gate, evidently a corruption of Sancta Via, from the fact that the processions of guilds and pilgrims passed along it.

tion of marguerites on the cap, and the font tells the story of St. Margaret and St. Catherine.

At the evening meeting Mr. Thos. Blashill read a paper on 'The Frame-Knitters' Company of London,' which was followed by one on 'The Early History of the Stocking-Frame' by Mr. W. T. Rowlett, in which the invention of the first stocking-machine by the Rev. W. Lee in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and the progress of the industry down to the present day, were described. A paper on 'Wickliffe and his Times,' by the Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma, M.A., was then read, in the author's absence, by Mr. George Patrick. In it Wickliffe was described as a social, moral, and political philosopher rather than as a Reformer, and a highly interesting parallel was drawn between him and Prof. Jowett, both Masters of Balliol. He owed his immunity from persecution, no doubt, to the all-powerful influence of John of Gaunt, but the Church of the fourteenth century was really marvellously tolerant of Wickliffe's Utopian and idealist opinions. In producing and cherishing Wickliffe Oxford showed herself to be then, as now, the mother of "new movements."

On Saturday, August 4th, the final visit of the Congress was paid to Lutterworth, the quiet country rectory to which Wickliffe retired in 1381, and where he died in 1384. The church is well known, and is a very fine one, but it is all of later days. Wickliffe's church, in which he celebrated mass to the last, has disappeared, but the associations of the place remain, and a portion of his cope which is shown proves him to have lived and died a faithful priest of the Church of England, very far removed in spirit and teaching from those who now call themselves his followers. The church was described by Mr. G. Patrick, and Mr. Andrew Oliver read a short paper upon, and described, the interesting Fielding monument and brasses. The figures supposed to represent members of the Fielding family are placed upon an altar-tomb, over which is a four-centred arch, having in the place of one finial a figure of an angel holding a representation of the soul. The male figure shows, with armour at the elbows and lower arms as far as the wrists, a portion of a breastplate and gorget and pointed shoes or sollerets. Over the figure is worn a large flowing cloak, an anelace secured by a belt being passed through the side. The hair is worn cut short across the forehead. The wife's effigy is also in a cloak secured by a cord passing across the breast and terminating in tassels. On the outside are to be seen an "inkhorn and penne." On the opposite side, on the side of the effigy and next to the back of the tomb, there is a rosary. A veil is thrown over the head. Both the figures have small animals at the feet. The front of the tomb is panelled in seven compartments, alternately a rose and a canopied compartment, the latter containing angels' figures holding shields, from which the heraldic bearings have entirely disappeared. There is neither date nor inscription, but the date may be placed approximately at c. 1460, but the armour being so completely hidden it is difficult to say exactly. Close to this monument, on the floor, are two small brasses to John Fielding (1402) and his wife Joanna (1418). They call for no special remark, being characteristic of the period. There is also another small fragment, consisting of a butterfly headdress (c. 1485), the remainder of the effigy and that which accompanied it being now lost.

The final meeting was held in the afternoon at the Museum Buildings.

#### ARY RENAN.

It is with a sentiment of profound sorrow that I write of the death of my friend and fellow-worker, Ary Renan, who passed away on August 4th, in a sudden and painful seizure of the malady which had long deprived those who loved him of all hope for his future. Although

for some time past we had expected the fatal end, yet it has come upon us with a sense of irreparable loss. Doubly endowed, born of one whose noble nature was revered by all who approached her, he was also the child of his father's genius. "Ary Renan," says a recent critic, "peint des pages de psychologie féminine, d'une grâce exquise, et promène sa fantaisie de paysagiste amoureux de lumière et de poésie, des landes de Bretagne aux îles de la mer Égée." He wrote, too, of all these things with a marvellous facility, rendering with exceptional grace the most fugitive impressions of travel, or charming his readers with eloquence such as he lately displayed in the pages of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* when interpreting for them the quality and purpose of the art of Gustave Moreau. But there were other and humbler offices performed by his pen, of which I for one must make the warmest personal acknowledgment. Again and again he has devoted his magic powers of interpretation to the ungrateful task of translation in the service of his friends, and that of my recent volume on 'French Painters of the Eighteenth Century' was in his hands.

EMILIA F. S. DILKE.

#### FINE-ART Gossip.

PROF. CHURCH has recently examined the exterior of Westminster Abbey, and we are not going too far in saying that the report he has drawn up is of a most serious nature. He finds that the fumes from the potteries at Lambeth are acting most injuriously on the stonework, and either they must be stopped or in the course of not very many years the Abbey will be a ruin.

MR. WATTS has made considerable progress with a picture in oil colours of what promises, when it is carried out on an adequate scale, to be one of the finest and most energetic of all his designs, a vigorous and broad exercise in chiaroscuro of an unusually massive sort, combining the effect of bright daylight with the sumptuous colours of the draperies and lustrous plate and mail worn by Joan of Arc and a company of French nobles attending upon her, who have assembled before going into battle. The central figure of Joan of Arc on horseback, a highly impressive one, is likewise the central element in the chiaroscuro and coloration of the work, and in the design and composition the most striking feature.

THE fifty-fourth annual meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association will be held at Merthyr-Tydfil on Monday next and the four following days. On Tuesday the archaeologists will visit Gelligaer church and castle, going by Morlais Castle and Capel Brithdir, and returning through Llancaich, where the Tudor mansion will be inspected. On Wednesday an excursion will be made to Llantrisant and Castell Coch. On Thursday the archaeologists will inspect the cross made in turf on the hillside at Bedd-y-Gwyddel; at Vedw Hir, the inscribed stone removed from Penymynydd, Ystradfellte; Ystradfellte Church; and the Maen Madoc (inscribed stone on the line of the Sarn Helen), two miles north-west of Castell Coch. On the return journey a stop will be made at Aberpergwm. On Friday Cardiff will be visited. The President will deliver his inaugural address on Tuesday evening, and on that evening papers will be read on Glamorganshire antiquities and history.

THE report of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings is not particularly cheerful reading. The Society has to lament the decease of Mr. Ruskin, who, as long as he was able, gave it his warm support, his last active step having been to protest against the destruction of the West Front of Peterborough. The efforts of the Society to preserve Tudor House, Bromley, have been frustrated by the obstinate vandalism of the "Parks Committee"

of the County Council, while the Town Council of Bedford has demolished the remains of the ancient priory. The tower of Wrexham Church seems likely to be destroyed by "restoration," and St. Mary's, Leicester, appears to be also in great danger. At Hexham Abbey some misguided donor is going to waste fifteen thousand pounds on a new nave "in the style of the fifteenth century," and another has determined "to erect the Lady Chapel of the old abbey at his own expense"! Why cannot these good people erect new churches in populous districts instead of wasting their money on meaningless forgeries?

ARCHITECTS ought not to be ignorant of the fact that all the drawings of Viollet-le-Duc of the so-called *monuments historiques* are in the possession of the French Minister of Public Instruction, besides an immense body of drawings, photographs, engravings, and historical notes and records of public buildings.

THE esteemed art historian Dr. Karl Eggers died a few days ago at Warnemünde in his seventy-sixth year. He was a native of Rostock. Besides his biographical works on Rauch, Rietchel, Schadow, and Klaus Groth, he attained considerable popularity as a Platt-deutsch poet. His 'Tremsen' in that dialect has passed through three editions.

#### MUSIC

##### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Tchaikovsky.* By Rosa Newmarch. (Grant Richards.)—The production of the 'Symphonie Pathétique' in London was followed almost immediately by the news of the sudden death of the composer. The title of that work and the unutterably sad closing movement suggested forebodings in the mind of Tchaikovsky of coming doom, and at once invested that symphony with a mystic charm. Then came the desire to know more about the man and his works. At his concerts Mr. Henry J. Wood has done much to make the latter known, for which reason the present volume is dedicated to him and to his wife; and now Mrs. Newmarch presents us with the story of the life of the composer, extracts from his writings, and the diary of his tour abroad in 1888. In 1897 she published in the *Musician* a series of papers on the composer, and in the following year another series in the *Musical Standard* entitled 'Tchaikovsky as a Musical Critic.' The former, "almost entirely rewritten," and the latter are included in the volume. The story of the composer's artistic life offers a series of bitter disappointments. His first work, a concert overture, was condemned by his teacher, Nicholas Rubinstein, and, apparently, never published; his opera 'Undine,' sent to the Theatrical Direction of St. Petersburg for approval, was rejected unconditionally, and, in consequence, destroyed by its author; and nearly all his works were coldly received by either press or public, or by both. As to the private life there is really nothing of special interest. M. N. Kashkin, to whose 'Reminiscences of Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky' Mrs. Newmarch frankly acknowledges her indebtedness, speaks of "a sealed packet" of which the seal may be broken thirty years hence. This packet, however, only seems to refer to one episode in the composer's life, viz., his unhappy marriage in 1877. The chapters on 'Tchaikovsky as a Musical Critic' only prove once more that composers are not, as a rule, the best critics; Schumann, of course, was a notable exception. Our author remarks truly that the literary legacy of the composer "is chiefly valuable because it throws a narrow shaft of light upon his personal tastes and explains the tendencies which influenced his music." Mozart was the "chief deity of his musical Olympus." Beethoven he naturally held in veneration, but he objected to exaggerated,

fanatical worship of that composer, and he protested against "the insincerity of an equal and indiscriminate laudation of all his works." In this he was certainly justified. How common it is for persons to talk and even write about Beethoven's wonderful or glorious symphonies! From an evolutionary point of view they are undoubtedly all interesting, but there are certain sonatas and certain symphonies which stand apart, above all the rest. Of Schumann Tchaikowsky's opinion was "variable," though it "rarely rose to whole-hearted approbation." Brahms appears to have been his pet aversion. We read that he "would often take one of Brahms's scores from his shelves and try to work himself up to a flickering enthusiasm for the contents." In reading through the 'Diary of my Tour in 1888,' with its various allusions to Brahms, one feels almost inclined to suspect a certain animus. There are certainly works of Brahms which rouse a very faint flicker—if any—of enthusiasm, but the wholesale condemnation of Brahms as "dry, cold, and vague" seems to us as unjust as the wholesale laudation of Beethoven which so annoyed the Russian critic. Bülow once told him that a time would come when he would enter into the depth and beauty of Brahms, but in that 'Diary,' written only five years before his death, Tchaikowsky writes, "And still I wait; but the revelation tarries." The 'Diary,' though it contains touches which reveal the composer's personality, is not particularly entertaining or profitable reading. And why does it not include the visit to London? Was it not written, or has it for some reason been omitted? Mrs. Newmarch is conscious of the shortcomings and of the patchy nature of the construction of her book. It will probably one day be followed by a more comprehensive life; meanwhile musicians ought to be thankful for information carefully gathered up, and not without trouble, "in the byways of Russian musical literature." The volume contains a portrait of the composer, a facsimile from the score of the 'Overture 1812,' and a useful list of works.

*The Chord.* Vol. I. (Published at the sign of the Unicorn.)—This volume contains many thoughtful and interesting articles, though some of the statements are extravagant and some dangerous. It is surely extravagant to assert that "colour and rhythm are the essential Tchaikowsky," as we find in the article on that composer signed Asrafel. Then Mr. E. A. Baughan, in 'A Plea for the Symphony,' thinks reformation necessary in this form of art "in respect to the number of movements and their connexion one with the other." He may be perfectly right, and one can quite understand the boredom he suffers in listening to the "platitudes" of a mediocrity which copies the symphony style of the great masters. But we demur to his advice to the young composer to "make what modifications he will." Young composers had best follow the example of Beethoven, and begin by copying. To hint that modification is essential might tempt them to all kinds of foolish changes. As a specimen of a dangerous statement we may quote the following, which occurs in an article, 'The Dismal Science,' signed John F. Runciman: "Beethoven himself got tired of the lessons of Papa Haydn, and left counterpoint to those who had less serious work in the world than he saw before him." Beethoven really got tired not of counterpoint, but of the negligence of Haydn in leaving the faults in his exercises uncorrected. And, further, we read that "Wagner learnt all he wanted to learn in about six months, and never troubled more about it," although the master was really counterpointing all his life.

*The Tone King: a Romance of the Life of Mozart.* From the German of Heribert Rau, author of 'Beethoven,' &c., by J. E. St. Quentin Rao. (Jarrold & Sons.)—The life of Mozart is in itself a romance: the visits to France,

England, and Italy, where the juvenile prodigy created the utmost astonishment by his performances and by his compositions; the story of the two sisters Aloysia and Constance Weber, one of whom jilted him while the other became his loving wife; various circumstances connected with the productions of his operas; the mystery of the 'Requiem'; and, finally, the sad death and burial, amid a raging storm, in a pauper's grave. The writer of the 'Romance' under notice has, however, by the help of imagination, padded out the real romance, also given descriptions of historical persons and places, described manners and customs of olden times, and thus produced a book of nearly five hundred pages which offer pleasant and at times instructive reading. The objection, however, to such books is the intertwining of fact and fiction; for no doubt they are intended principally to attract readers who are not acquainted with the lives of the great musicians, and who, therefore, cannot distinguish between the reality and the romance. The writer speaks of little Wolfgang at the age of four writing a concerto for complete orchestra, and in proper form, while a foot-note attests that this is "an historic fact." We have, however, only the statement of Nissen to that effect, an exaggeration probably of the concerto story as related in the Schachtner letter. In an imaginary conversation of young Mozart with Jomelli and a German composer named Doll, Jomelli speaks of the symphony as the most glorious of musical forms, and Mozart in his reply says, "How I long to write one!" This conversation is supposed to take place at Naples in 1770, but already five years before, while in London, the youthful prodigy had composed three symphonies. The visit to London (1764-5), by the way, is not noticed in the 'Tone King.' The translation seems good, yet the following sentence, "Meanwhile, the candidate was again left in solitude, and the trial of the composition by different composers began," is more than peculiar. It refers to the examination at Bologna, when Wolfgang was elected a member of the Accademia Filarmonica.

### Musical Gossip.

THE Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts, which commence on Saturday evening, the 25th inst., will continue for ten weeks. The nine symphonies of Beethoven are to be performed in chronological order, one every Friday in the first part of the programme, which will be exclusively devoted to that composer. Certain of the master's symphonies are repeatedly played during the year, but thus to hear all the nine is a rare opportunity, and one which no doubt will be duly appreciated; such a scheme offers a study in evolution of the highest importance and interest. The first part of every Monday programme will be devoted to Wagner, and of every Wednesday to symphonic music. Tuesdays and Thursdays will be popular, "with a concerto"; Saturdays popular, "without symphony or concerto." Mr. Arthur W. Payne will be leader of the orchestra, and Mr. Henry J. Wood, as usual, conductor.

THE Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company commenced its season at Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on August 6th. The opening opera was 'Faust,' in which Mlle. Aurelia Revy, who appeared this season in the 'Ring' at Covent Garden, is said to have been highly successful. She is only twenty-one years of age.

M. E. COLONNE has just concluded his first Exhibition cycle of concerts at the Vieux Paris. Of the 180 concerts 52 were devoted to French and 54 to foreign music. There were 54 international programmes, and 28 of popular music. These figures—making, however, a total of 188 concerts—are taken from *Le Ménestrel* of August 5th. Of the French concerts 28 were devoted exclusively to Berlioz, Bizet, Lalo, Massenet, Saint-Saëns, Widor, Pierné, and

d'Indy; and in the international concerts the following countries were represented: Austria, Bohemia, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, and Spain.

M. ALBERT CARRÉ announces the following novelties for his Paris Opéra Comique season of 1900-1: 'William Ratcliff,' libretto by M. Louis de Gramont, music by M. X. Leroux; 'L'Ouragan,' libretto by M. Émile Zola, music by M. A. Bruneau; 'La Fille de Tabarin,' libretto by MM. Sardou and P. Ferrier, music by M. Pierné; and 'La Famille Joliceur,' libretto by M. Henri Cain, music by M. Coquard.

*Le Guide Musical* of August 5th furnishes a long and interesting account of two concerts recently given at Berlin by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Helsingfors, under the direction of its conductor, M. Robert Kajanus. Particular mention is made of M. Jean Sibelius, one of the most prominent composers of the young Finnish school. He was represented by a symphony, a symphonic poem ('Patrie'), and two episodes from his epopee 'Kalevala.' The conductor of the orchestra is also a composer, and two of his pieces, a 'Rhapsodie Finlandaise' and 'Les Souvenirs d'Été,' were performed. The two concerts appear to have resulted in a decided success.

THE same paper, in referring to the forthcoming Birmingham Festival, complains that English composers will be very feebly represented. Mr. Coleridge-Taylor is classed, by the way, as an American. It would surely have been more reasonable to notice the absence of any important novelty by a foreign composer.

THE poet Herr Hermann Rollet was present at the recent unveiling of the Beethoven monument in the Helenenthal, Baden, near Vienna. He was presented to the master by Nanette Streicher, the great friend of the latter. Although only ten years of age at the time, he has a distinct remembrance of Beethoven's figure. M. Manuel Garcia and he are probably the last survivors of those who were personally acquainted with the composer.

### DRAMA

#### THE MCKEE LIBRARY.

THE choice library of the late Mr. Thomas Jefferson McKee, to which the *Athenæum* made a brief reference recently, will probably prove to be the most remarkable of its kind ever sold at auction in America. The catalogue is not yet ready, but the auctioneer, Mr. John Anderson, jun., has been good enough to furnish me with material sufficient to indicate the richness of the collection. Mr. McKee, who died in New York on July 16th, 1899, at the comparatively early age of fifty-nine, was a lawyer by profession and an ideal bibliophile by instinct. Although his taste was by no means narrow or exclusive, as will be presently seen, his bent was avowedly the literature of the theatre. He managed to obtain no fewer than 520 quarto plays printed before the year 1700, including about twenty not mentioned by Halliwell, and he possessed not only the majority of articles enumerated by Mr. Lowe in his 'Bibliography of English Theatrical Literature,' but about fifty titles not included in Mr. Lowe's book. These two facts, therefore, at once place the McKee sale on no ordinary footing. There will be five sales in disposition of the library, arranged thus: (1) American literature in prose and verse, American plays; (2) the drama, English and American; (3) English plays, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries; (4) Early English literature in prose and verse; (5) English authors in first editions, Americana, early printed books, &c. The first sale will take place late in November or early in December.

Taking the most important section—the plays—first, it may be mentioned that Mr.

Alfred Becks, who was for many years an intimate friend of the late Mr. McKee, recently contributed to four consecutive issues of the *New York Mirror* a complete and descriptive catalogue, which extends to upwards of twelve columns. This list is alphabetically arranged according to the name of the play, after the fashion of the second volume of Baker's 'Biographia Dramatica.' This arrangement, which will presumably be followed in the sale catalogue, has its advantages, but from a bibliographical point of view the plan adopted by Mr. W. W. Greg in his valuable 'List,' issued by the Bibliographical Society a few months ago, is much preferable. A little extra trouble also might result in the discovery of the approximate date of many undated plays. For instance, the date of Robert Cox's 'Actæon and Diana'—which, by the way, is not mentioned by Mr. Greg—is stated by Lowndes to be 1566, but this must be wrong, as Robert Cox was not born until 1580; he died in 1648; 'Actæon and Diana' was printed by T. Newcomb, who was in business from about 1657 till his death in 1681; this play, or interlude, or whatever else it may be called, was possibly not printed till after the author's death, and certainly not much before. There are some other bibliographical points suggested by the lists of Mr. Becks, but these need not be discussed at the present time. All plays, in good condition, printed prior to the year 1700 are scarce, and collectors of them are much more numerous than a few years ago. Among the plays which were printed in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries obtained by Mr. McKee, special mention may be made of the following: 'Albunazar,' by Tomkis, 1634, first published in 1615, and considered by Dryden as the original of 'The Alchemist' of Ben Jonson; 'All's Lost by Lust,' 1633, by W. Rowley; 'The Bird in a Cage,' 1633, by J. Shirley; 'The Blind Beggar of Alexandria,' 1598, by George Chapman, whose first play it was; 'The Bondman,' 1624, by Massinger; 'The Brazen Age,' 1613, by Thomas Heywood; 'Cæsar and Pompey,' 1631, by G. Chapman, of which there appears to be no copy in the British Museum; 'Cambyses, King of Persia,' no date, by Thomas Preston, of which there were two editions, both undated, one printed by Edward Alde, and the other by John Alde (it is not stated which of these editions is the McKee copy); 'A Christian turn'd Greek,' 1612, by Robert Daborne; 'The Cobbler's Prophecy,' 1594, by Robert Wilson; 'Cælum Britannicum,' 1634, a masque, by Thomas Carew, "for some time erroneously ascribed to Sir William Davenant" (British Museum, 1103, e, 30[5]); 'The Conflict of Conscience,' 1581, by Nathaniel Woodes; 'The Country Wife,' no date, but probably 1675 or 1688, by W. Wycherley; 'Cupid's Whirligig,' editions 1607 and 1616, by Edward Sharpm; 'Cynthia's Revenge,' 1613, by John Stephens; 'The Dumb Knight,' 1608, by Gervase Markham; 'Edward the Second,' 1622, by C. Marlowe; 'Edward the Third,' 1596, by an unknown author; 'Histriomastix,' 1610, and 'How a Man may chuse a Good Wife from a Bad,' 1608, both by unknown authors (in the Garrick collection this latter is ascribed in MS. to a Joshua Cooke); 'Ignoramus,' 1630, by George Ruggle; 'The Isle of Gulls,' 1633, by J. Daye; 'The Rival Friends,' 1632, by Peter Hansted; 'Two Maids of More Clacke,' 1609, by Robert Armin; 'A Warning for Faire Women,' 1599, by an anonymous author, a play of the highest rarity, George Daniel's copy having realized 56l. in 1864 (there is no copy in the British Museum, and the only one recorded by Mr. Greg is in the Bodleian); 'The Whple Contention between the Two Famous Houses Lancaster and York,' no date, printed by T. Pavier, and "written by William Shakespeare, Gent., but the work of an unknown author; and 'A Woman Kill'd with Kindness,' 1617, by Thomas Heywood. These are just a few of the

rarer and little-known plays which appear in Mr. McKee's library. The works by the leading dramatists of the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are nearly all represented here. Shakespeare is conspicuously absent, Mr. McKee not having been able, apparently, to secure a solitary early quarto. But there are other collectors of whom the same may be said. He possessed, however, copies of the first, second, and fourth folios, but of the condition of these we can say nothing. There are also copies of the 'Poems' (1640) and 'Lucrece' (1624).

In Early English literature, especially poetry, the library contains very many choice and rare books. Special mention need only be made of a few, e.g., Puttenham's 'Arte of English Poesie,' 1589; Allot's 'English Parnassus,' 1600; George Chapman's 'Shadow of Night,' 1594, the same author's translation of the 'Iliad,' 1598, and 'Tears of Peace,' 1609; several of Spenser's works in early or first editions; Churchyard's 'Chippes,' 1575, and 'Description of the Wofull Warres in Flaunders,' 1578; several of Samuel Daniel's works, including 'Civil Wars,' 1595, 'Poetical Essayes,' 1599, and 'Certain Small Works,' 1611; Michael Drayton is represented by 'Mortimeriados,' 1596, 'The Owle,' 1604, 'Poems,' 1608, and 'The Battle of Agincourt,' 1631; Gascoigne by 'Poesies,' 1575, and 'Steele Glass,' 1576; Greene by 'Quip for an Upstart Courtier,' 1592, 'Philomela,' 1615, 'Arcadia,' 1616, and 'Alcida,' 1617; John Heywood by 'The Spider and the Flie,' 1556; James VI. (of Scotland) by 'Essayes of a Prentise,' 1585; and Lovelace by 'Lucrece' of 1649 and 1659. It need hardly be said that these publications are very rare, and only occur for sale at long and irregular intervals. The condition of the McKee copies will, of course, largely affect their selling value, but it may be reasonably assumed that they are fairly good examples, so that some record prices may be anticipated.

In English literature of comparatively modern times the library is also noteworthy. It contains "one of the finest copies known" of the Kilmarnock Burns; a series of first editions of Shelley, notably 'Adonais,' presented by the author to Leigh Hunt; there are also Charles Dickens's own copy of 'David Copperfield,' Burns's copy of Shakespeare, the Grolier copy of the *Livy* of 1501, and books from the libraries of celebrated or interesting men, notably Keats and Thackeray. Early editions of American literature naturally abound; but we need only specify two or three items in this connexion, viz., a copy of Washington Irving's 'History of New York by Diedrich Knickerbocker,' 1809, in the original boards, uncut, said to be unique in this condition; and two volumes of Edgar Allan Poe, each with a distinct provenance, 'The Raven' and 'The Poems' bound together and presented to Mrs. Sarah Helen Whitman—the "Helen" of Poe's dreams—from "the most devoted of her friends, Edgar A. Poe"; and also the *Broadway Journal*, 1845, in which Poe has marked the articles written by him, and which bears the inscription, "Given to S. H. W. by E. A. P., October, 1848." W. R.

### Dramatic Gossip.

PROF. WARR is going to bring out, through Mr. George Allen, a series of annotated translations from the Greek dramatists. They will be illustrated from the remains of Greek art, and Prof. Warr has been fortunate enough to secure the aid of Prof. Murray, who has taken for his subject Euripides and Athenian society. Prof. Warr will himself write a monograph on the Orestean Trilogy and the rise of Greek tragedy, and another on Aristophanes and Greek comedy; while Prof. Phillimore will contribute a volume on Sophocles.

MRS. TREE, who on the first production at Her Majesty's of 'Julius Cæsar' contented herself with the small part of Lucius, will, it is

believed, in the forthcoming revival appear as Portia.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER is credited with the intention of becoming the manager of the Garrick, and producing at that house a new play by Mr. J. M. Barrie. Mrs. Arthur Bouchier (Miss Violet Vanbrugh), whose illness has been serious and prolonged, will, it is hoped, soon reappear.

THE forthcoming presentation of two plays on the subject of Nell Gwynne has set theatrical reporters and annalists on the track of previous works dealing with the same theme. The 'Nell Gwynne' of Douglas Jerrold, produced at Covent Garden on January 9th, 1833, has accordingly been dragged in. In this King Charles was played by Jones and Nell by Miss Taylor, the characters introduced comprising Betterton, Hart, Mohun, Joe Haynes, and Orange Moll, an imaginary friend of the heroine, played by Keeley! A piece likely to have more in common with forthcoming productions is, however, 'Nell Gwynne,' a four-act comedy of Wills, given at the Royalty, May 1st, 1878, in which Miss Emily Fowler was Nell and Mr. Leathes, Charles. In this not wholly undramatic work Nell scores constantly and heavily off the Duchess of Portsmouth, and outwits and defeats a dangerous enemy in the Duke of Buckingham. In the course of the action Nell's portrait is painted by Sir Peter Lely.

THE new play which Sir Henry Irving has up his sleeve, the subject of which he is at some pains to keep dark, is, we are told, the work of Mr. W. L. Courtney (the author of 'Kit Marlowe,' produced at the St. James's Theatre in 1892) and Mr. Comyns Carr. It is, we presume, the drama on the massacre of St. Bartholomew of which we have heard.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR has been long occupied with a play entitled 'The Lost Leader,' founded upon incidents in the career of Charles Stewart Parnell. This will be produced next month at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, with Mr. Laurence Irving as the hero.

THE Kennington Theatre reopened on Monday, under the management of Mr. Robert Arthur, with 'Riding to Win,' a drama by Messrs. Frank Herbert and Walter Howard.

'LA SORCIÈRE' is the title of a comedy by M. Victorien Sardou which has been accepted for speedy production by Madame Sarah Bernhardt, who has also in reserve a five-act play in verse, entitled 'La Belle du Bois Dormant.' The adaptation of 'Romeo and Juliet' in which Madame Bernhardt is to appear is by M. Rostand.

'SELF AND LADY' will, it is said, be the title of the new play from the French of M. Pierre Decourcelle, the forthcoming production of which at the Vaudeville we last week announced.

IN Mr. Forbes Robertson's forthcoming production in the country of 'Hamlet,' which will subsequently win its way to London, Miss Gertrude Elliott, known hitherto in domestic comedy, will make, as Ophelia, a first essay in poetic tragedy. Mr. Ian Robertson will reappear as the Ghost, Miss Kate Bishop will play the Queen, and Mr. E. W. Garden—a curious experiment—will essay the part of Polonius.

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